# TRADE AND INDUSTRY

29 November 1973 Volume 13 No 9 10p

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# Trade and Industry

*Incorporating the Board of Trade Journal*
Volume 13. No. 9. Pages 457 to 508. November 29, 1973. Price 10p. Net subscription post inclusive, £7.60
Editorial address: Room 437, Department of Trade and Industry, 1 Victoria St., SW1H 0ET. 01-222 7877
Advertisements: HMSO, Room C70, Atlantic House, Holborn Viaduct, London EC1P 1BN. 01-248 9876 ext. 6147
Subscriptions: HMSO PO Box 569 London SE1. 01-928 6977 ext. 472

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# France: a market in steady expansion

by P. H. Laurence, MC, Commercial Counsellor, British Embassy, Paris

THE French and British have at least one thing in common—the conviction that their way of doing things is the only one and that anyone who thinks differently is perverse. This can cause complications. But it presents a challenge that is well worth taking up.

The heat generated by a recent report on the French economy distracted attention from facts which are not in dispute. In particular

(a) the French economy has been expanding for the last 15 years at a steady annual rate of between 5 and 6 per cent per annum in real terms, even at a time when other industrial economies have been marking time;

(b) French g.d.p. is already 30 per cent greater than the British and is catching up on that of the Federal German Republic. In per capita terms progress is even more marked, the French population being 5 million less than the British and 10 million less than the German;

(c) French foreign trade is growing at an annual rate of about 12 per cent in volume. France's exports have now overtaken Britain's in value (they amounted to 131,528 million Frs in 1972, equivalent to £10,422 million at the average exchange rate for the year, compared with £9,746 million for UK's exports) and her imports are following suit (see graph).

In short, France is in the process of a transformation compared with which the Revolution was a bagatelle. Take agriculture. This still absorbs 13 per cent of the French working population, who produce 6 per cent of the g.d.p. But 10 years ago the proportion was 25 per cent and in another 10 it will have been reduced by half again. Production however has been maintained by larger holdings and mechanisation. Crop farming is already highly mechanised. Animal husbandry is following. The demand is for sophisticated feeding systems and animal handling equipment.

In industry the transformation is no less marked. The old industries—coal, steel and textiles—are being phased out (coal) or restructured. The new steel centres are at Dunkirk and Fos (near Marseilles), not in Lorraine. New industries have developed in new places: aircraft and electronics around Toulouse; petro-chemicals at Bordeaux and Le Havre: electronics and data-processing at Toulouse, Montpellier and numerous other centres; the motor industry in the North and the East. And there is hardly a town of any size or pretension in the whole of France that has not established its industrial zone and is inviting industry in.

The tertiary sector (services and distribution) has changed the least so far, but the movement has begun. Small, independent shopkeepers may still account for 72 per cent of retail sales. But the remainder is through large and increasingly sophisticated organisations, whose share of the total market is growing steadily. France invented the department store. Some have been through a difficult period but have been reorganising and streamlining their methods. There are now more than 2,000 supermarkets in the country (900 10 years ago) and 229 hypermarkets—stores of more than 2,500 sq. metres of selling area—(four 10 years ago). In addition 134 commercial centres have been opened on the periphery of the larger urban areas. A typical one contains six department stores and 150 boutiques, and 4,000 parking spaces. To remain in business the independent shopkeepers are increasingly forming or joining voluntary central buying agencies. There were more than 100 at the latest count.

## The lesson for British sales

All this is a general introduction to the question: what is the lesson for British sales in France? Clearly the short-term prospects are brightest for consumer goods, for several good reasons:

(a) the average Frenchman already has more take-home pay in his pocket than the average Briton and is getting steadily richer. He spends critically but lavishly on his home, his car, and his leisure.

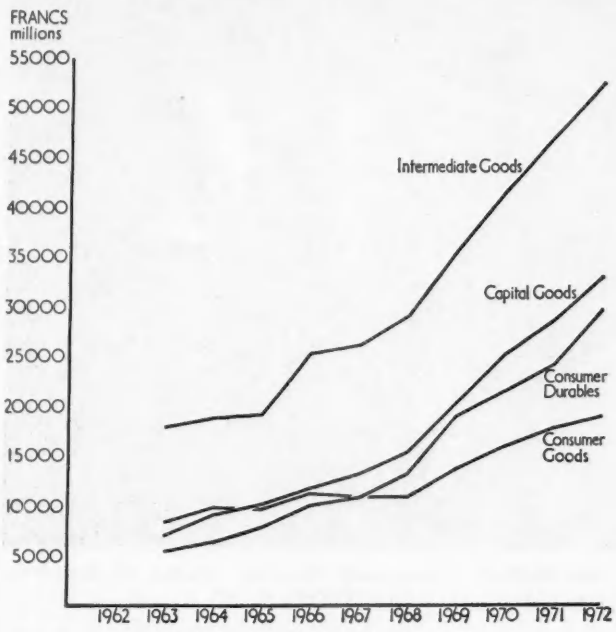
(b) Many British goods (woollen cloth, knitwear, stereophonic equipment and boats amongst them) have a solid reputation for quality.

(c) The tariffs will already have been reduced by 40 per cent on January 1 next, and some non-tariff barriers, eg quotas, have already disappeared.

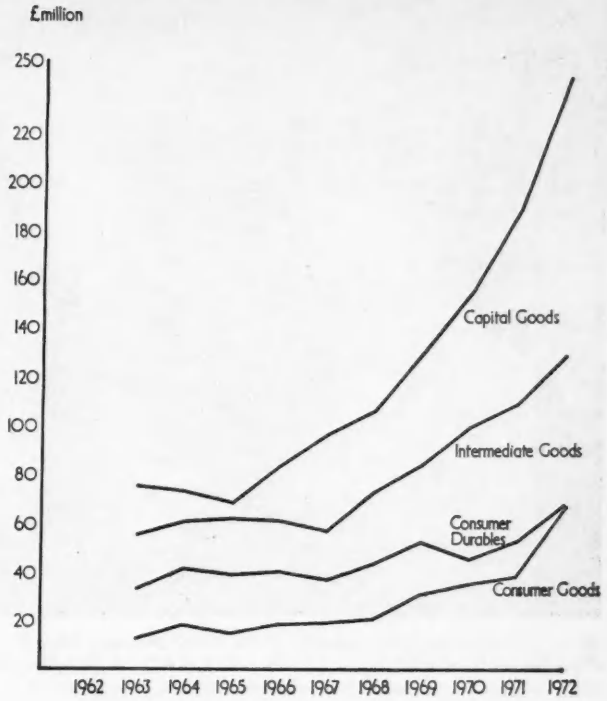
(d) The depreciation of sterling has kept British prices competitive and attracted greater interest from importers.

This attraction is reflected in the trade figures (see graph). Sales of British consumer goods in France in 1972 jumped by 75.5 per cent. Foodstuffs alone were up 159 per cent and meat and meat preparations by no less than 365 per cent. The trend this year is similar, showing an overall increase in this sector of 50 per cent. And this is only a beginning. The snowball

**TOTAL FRENCH IMPORTS** by broad categories
(French Customs Statistics c.i.f.)




**BRITISH EXPORTS TO FRANCE** by broad categories
(DTI. Statistics f.o.b.)




***Definition of broad categories used in graphs***

***1. Capital goods. SITC Section 7 less 732.1***

***2. Consumer durables. SITC Section 8 Division 61, Division 65, Division 732.1***

***3. Consumer goods. SITC Section 0, Section 1, Section 4, Division 54, Division 55***

***4. Intermediate goods. SITC Section 2, Section 3, Section 5 less 54 and 55, Section 6 less 61 and 65***

grows as it rolls. British sales should do the same—provided the supplies are there.

It will not be invidious to mention one or two commodities in particular. First, foodstuffs. The possibilities are huge; not to sell the French what they make well for themselves, but to stimulate their palate for British specialities. Biscuits are a winner (already as many chocolate fingers are sold in France as in Britain). Cakes, jams, marmalades and sauces go down well. The taste for specifically British tinned products and prepared dishes is growing. And the scope for all forms of frozen and deep-frozen foods, still much less developed in France than in Britain, is great. Expanded sales of these products should be linked to the change in French distribution, mentioned above. The largest buyers are the large store chains, the super/hyper-markets and the central buying agencies. Their criteria are the right quality, the right price and assured delivery.

Next, carpets. The French consumption of carpets is still only a quarter of the British and one-sixth of the German. But it is growing fast, by around 20 per cent per annum. Imports supply an increasing share. They grew by 1,000 per cent in the 10 year period 1962/72. In 1972 they were worth Frs 330 million and represented 50 per cent of sales. But the British share of *imports* actually decreased from 4.5 per cent in 1966 to 2 per cent last year, despite the excellent reputation British carpets have in the medium to high price ranges. Clearly there is something to be done here.

The same goes for other items of household equipment such as hi-fi and washing machines, where the competition is intense and the market saturated. Any French family that can afford it—and more and more can—invests in a second residence in the country. They all need equipping.

Further opportunities have been found for footwear, especially good, medium-priced men's shoes; for garden tools, in particular mowers, cultivators, hedge-cutters and hand tools, despite strong competition from the Japanese and Germans; for clothing, especially men's suiting and women's outerwear, while for knitwear the problem is simply production; for motor cycles and the special clothing and accessories that go with them; the market here is booming but it will require a hard effort to recapture the share that was lost to the Japanese some years ago.

The above is indicative only of the possibilities. They are all real, and there are more besides. The Commercial Department of the Embassy is actively studying with the BOTB at the moment ways and means of seizing the opportunity before it passes, with particular regard to the promotion nationwide of one or more carefully selected and well defined products, in close co-operation with the UK manufacturers and trade association(s) concerned. The emphasis would be on the hard sell and the continuity of sales over a substantial period.

## Capital goods

This does not mean that we are neglecting the capital goods side. Far from it. Despite the steep increase in their sales over the last 18 months consumer goods and consumer durables account for just over 13 per cent each of all British sales to France. The largest contribution by far is from capital goods, with 47.5 per cent of all sales. The market is excellent, France being the only industrialised country that is a net importer of machinery, and our entry into the Community now brings us the benefit of 'Community preference'. More than a quarter of British sales to France are non-electrical machinery. Of prime importance is metal working machinery, in particular machine tools. The French market for these is worth more than £160

***(continued on next page)***

*Mr. J. A. Lewando (right), member of the British Overseas Trade Board, and Mr. R. Arculus examining an exhibit on the Gor Ray stand at the Paris Pret-à-Porter exhibition at the end of last month. Mr. Arculus is Minister, Economic, at the British Embassy in Paris.*

**FRANCE—A MARKET IN STEADY EXPANSION**
*continued*

million a year. Half is supplied by imports. Yet, although France is one of our most important export markets for machine tools, Britain still supplies only about 6 per cent of French imports. The trend of demand is towards greater sophistication. The use of numerically-controlled tools is growing fast. At the same time the market for general purpose lathes and milling machines continues strong, mainly from the small sub-contractor with his own workshop. The Commercial Department is more than ready to consider with manufacturers and the Trade Association, which is already active in promoting contacts, new methods of obtaining a larger share of this large market. Certain initiatives are already under study.

Food processing is another important field. The French industry is in process of considerable restructuring. In five years the number of firms has been more than halved and stronger production units built up. There is a good demand for milk processing equipment; for all forms of industrial refrigerating and freezing equipment; for ovens and mixing equipment for biscuit and bread production; and for all the other equipment—weighing, labelling, wrapping and packaging—that goes with these.

A large number of industries use instruments for measuring and control. The same is true of laboratories and research establishments, and the French are devoting more resources to research and development. Pollution is also causing increasing concern, and very active measures are being taken to detect and neutralise it. The range of instruments required is wide. Forty-five per cent is provided by imports, France being a net importer. British manufacturers do reasonably well, but still only have about 10 per cent of imports, compared with 40 per cent for the USA and 25 per cent for West Germany. There is no prejudice against imported instruments. Many Government establishments are equipped with them. The important criteria are efficiency and reliability, and of course good after sales service.

Other commodities that may be mentioned more shortly as having possibilities are welding equipment, particularly friction welding and ultra-sonic; printing and bookbinding machinery, in which connection note might be made of the Printing Exhibition to be held in Paris in May 1974; equipment and components for the building industry, which includes safety and protection devices; and heat-treatment equipment. In this last regard it has to be admitted that British suppliers have had only a small share of the orders for the two new siderurgical complexes at Dunkirk and Fos. The latter however will move into its second stage in a few years time, and perhaps then the omens will be more favourable.

## Intermediate goods

A word should be said about intermediate goods too, about two in particular. There is a strong demand in France for steel, both sheets and plates and special steels. At present many inquiries are being refused on supply grounds. Given the expanding nature of the French economy and the likelihood of demand continuing there is good reason for making future provision to meet such orders. There is also a strong interest in chemicals, especially organic. A recent analysis by Commercial Department of source of supply inquiries received showed a very high proportion, only marginally after machine tools and instruments, for this commodity. The trade figures reflect this interest.

It is naturally easier to point to opportunities than to exploit them. An Embassy's task is to report, to advise, to help. At the risk, however, of appearing gratuitous I should like to mention three points which those who do the selling might bear in mind.

The first is that although by joining the Community we have obtained access on a basis of equality to a market of 250 million people, we should not assume that France has become in all respects the same as the UK. The same basic marketing strategy may well be applicable, but it will need modification to suit French conditions. Traditions are different, tastes vary, subtly but importantly, a label that may be ideal in the UK

may fail to attract in France, standard sizes vary and so on. Both product and marketing need specific study for France.

Secondly, if sales are to be maximised traditional methods of selling may need to be reviewed. Your agent may be a splendid person and have served you well for years. But would the market justify establishing your own network? Or the creation of a central supply point and a number of regional distributors? Or going in with a French manufacturer/distributor on a reciprocal basis? There is no single right answer. But sticking with what was done 10 or 20 years ago is not necessarily right either.

Thirdly, the possibility of closer co-operation with French companies should not be neglected. During the last 18 months we in the Embassy have noticed a greatly increased interest on the part of French companies in finding a British partner, whether for manufacture under licence, complementary manufacture or marketing, capital participation or merger. For those particularly who are new to the French market such co-operation can greatly facilitate their introduction. British investment in France has moved forward strongly in the last couple of years, and this is very encouraging. The French, however, are mindful of their own virtues, and although there are plenty of family concerns that are ready to sell out and are well disposed to British offers, many others prefer to be worked with than taken over.

**There will be many readers of this article who are more experienced in the French market than the writer. There may be some who are not. For them I have one simple message—come and see for yourself.**

## IMRA course in export marketing research

THE Industrial Marketing Research Association is holding a two-day course on Export Marketing Research at the Whately Hall Hotel, Banbury, from December 12 to 14.

The objectives of the course are to outline and illustrate how to plan and execute an Export Marketing Research Study and the problems that may be encountered in doing so, by means of lectures, discussions and case histories.

This course is designed for industrial marketing research staff and marketing executives who already have some appreciation or experience of marketing research in the home market and whose companies wish to extend their activities overseas.

For further information please contact: Miss P. Phillips, IMRA Office, 28 Bore Street, Lichfield, Staffs (tel: 054-32 23448).

*Dr. Sarcinelli Garcia and his wife being received by Mr. D. N. Royce, Under Secretary in the Overseas Finance and Planning Division of BOTB, at a London reception, November 12, held to welcome Dr. Sarcinelli, Dr. Miranda and Dr. Nogueira on their two-week visit to this country. Dr. Sarcinelli is Executive Secretary of CONSIDER, the Brazilian National Steel Council, and with his colleagues has been invited by BOTB to inspect the British steelmaking industry. Following the reception, Dr. Sarcinelli gave an illustrated talk on Brazil's steel development programme. During their stay in Britain, the visitors are holding discussions with London merchant banks. They are also visiting the British Steel Corporation's works in Port Talbot and Scunthorpe; the British Oxygen Co. and Head Wrightson Ltd. in Teesside; Davy-Loewy Ltd. in Sheffield; GKN Machinery Ltd. in Wolverhampton; and GEC Elliott Electrical Products in Rugby.*

*The strong interest of Barclays Bank Ltd. in exports was indicated by the attendance of Mr. A. E. Bagley, assistant general manager, and 14 district managers (some of them pictured above) from its new Business Advisory Service at a 'presentation' at Export House on November 15. The event was arranged by Mr. C. W. Blackman, MBE, Deputy Director, Invisibles Section, Export Services and Promotions Division, BOTB, and was supported by representatives from other branches of the division.*

## Opportunities in Japan for British printing and bookbinding machinery

'IT should be possible to increase exports to Japan by way of direct commodity exports or by licensing, joint venture or direct investment' states a market study, *The Japanese Market for Printing and Bookbinding Machinery*, published by the British Overseas Trade Board.

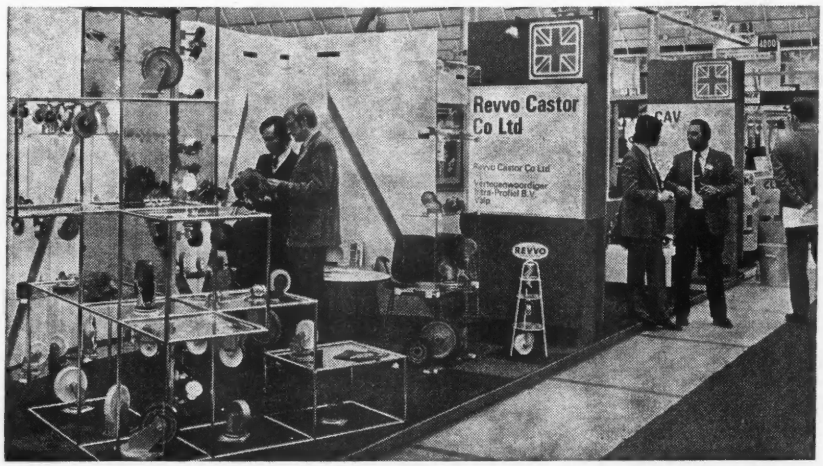
The study points out that, except in a few successful cases, UK products are not well known to people in the trade. Although staff of leading Japanese companies who have visited Europe appreciate the standard of the UK printing industry, many people in the trade do not seem to know that the United Kingdom is one of the leading suppliers of advanced printing machinery and equipment.

The study recommends five ways to improve the position of UK products in the Japanese market:

1. To write articles on the UK printing industry and printing machinery for leading Japanese trade journals.
2. To assist a mission from Japan to visit and see the UK printing industry and UK printing.
3. To exhibit at the International Graphic Arts Show (IGAS '74 TOKYO) which will be held from June 11-18, 1974.
4. To carry out a detailed and specific market survey concentrating on particular product lines so that a UK manufacturer can plan the best way of entering the Japanese market.
5. To visit Japan to assess the market requirements, prospective agents and other aspects at first hand.

The study also comments on the sales potential of different categories of printing and bookbinding machinery; provides a profile of the Japanese industry; discusses market factors, tariffs, sales promotion techniques; and lists the major trade fairs.

*The Japanese Market for Printing and Bookbinding Machinery* was prepared for the British Overseas Trade Board by Dodwell Marketing Consultants, Tokyo. The Study is available, price £5 post free, from the DTI Central Library, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.




*Visitors examine equipment on British stands at INVIA, the International Mechanical Handling Exhibition, in Utrecht.*

# British exhibitors note a big market for mechanical handling equipment

**From A. Hazebroek, Commercial Officer, British Embassy, The Hague:** The International Mechanical Handling Exhibition (INVIA), was held last month in Utrecht in three halls of the Jaarbeurs complex and in addition had a number of outdoor displays. Great Britain, the only country sponsoring a joint venture at this event, was represented by 14 firms making equipment ranging from industrial batteries to forklift trucks and conveyor systems. The stands were attractively designed and finished and were favourably located in the front of one of the halls, attracting a good deal of interest.

All British participants reported lively interest in their products, a good flow of visitors and many valuable inquiries received. Some firms sold equipment off their stands—in one case an order of about £25,000 was mentioned. One firm which had started agency negotiations about six months ago was very pleased to find ready acceptance of its line of pedestrian-controlled factory trucks by private companies and various municipal and Government departments. Another joint venture participant, wishing to appoint an agent, finished the exhibition with a large response and with the help of the Commercial Department was able to review the candidates' qualifications.

## Favourable climate

There is no doubt that at present strong factors have created a favourable climate in the Netherlands for British products, such as handling equipment. These are the current exchange rate of the £, Britain's membership of the EEC and the first reduction in the Outer EEC Tariff with another one to follow on January 1, 1974. These factors are reflected in the encouraging export figures for British handling equipment. In 1972 the total was £31.5 million, while for the first six months of 1973 this was £21.3 million.

In view of the traditionally strong distribution system in the Netherlands (ports of Rotterdam, Europoort, Amsterdam and other port developments, plus a road/rail transport system to all parts of Europe and Scandinavia) there is a continuous need for better systems to handle goods speedily and economically. As in other developed countries, labour has become very expensive and mechanical handling is an important way to cut costs. British firms recognised this and were fully aware that there will be a considerable market here for years to come.

In spite of the many makes of forklift trucks already available in this market (over 50 models), some new makes made their appearance at this exhibition, October 17-23, among them an East European type which may indicate a drive in mechanical handling equipment from other countries in that part of Europe. The situation for forklift trucks may already be changing. The strong Japanese drive, which has made tremendous advances during the last four or five years, is levelling out and other countries (including Britain) are making a comeback. A major British manufacturer has recently set up its own subsidiary in this country and took this exhibition as an opportunity (outside the joint venture) to present itself in its new form to existing and potential customers. The results were said to be very rewarding and from an already good position further advances are expected.

## Considerable advantage

Another trend which emerged was that completely automated warehouses are too expensive save for the largest firms. The capital outlay is too high to provide an adequate return on capital. This implies that until new and more economical methods become available, semi-automation will remain the major method. Thus equipment such as high bay warehouse shelving, stackers, order pickers, forklift trucks and slave trailers will remain important though the latter is not yet entirely trouble-free and this is hampering its further application.

Summarising, it can be said once again that a BOTB-supported joint venture has been to the considerable advantage of the British firms participating. It has created a point of focus for their products which they would not necessarily have achieved on their own and certainly not at the same price.

# Bravo Britannia store promotion increases sales

**From Mrs. J. P. Anderson, Vice-Consul (Commercial), British Consulate-General, Cleveland:** 'Bravo Britannia' was the theme and title of a store-wide British promotion held by the M. O. Neil Co., leading department store in Akron, capital of the United States rubber industry, last month. The promotion was launched with the support of the British Overseas Trade Board and in co-operation with BOAC which offered a draw for a two-week theatre trip to London for two.

Six thousand red and white rose bushes were specially raised under glass for the occasion and brought to bloom beside the main floor fountain and elsewhere in the store. The roses echoed the decorative colour scheme—crimson, gold, white—carried throughout the store by banners, shields, coats of arms and life-sized military figures. The Department of Trade loaned a series of life-sized 18th and 19th century historical costumed figures and replicas of the Crown Jewels to form the central display in the store.

For the hungry and thirsty there was the Lion's Head pub dispensing traditional English teatime fare—and a game of darts. A Georgian restaurant offered fish and chips, roast beef and trifle, as well as other English dishes.

## Inaugural ball

The M. O'Neil Co. ushered in the event with a ball in aid of St. Thomas' Hospital, Akron, at which Mr. Leslie Reid, the new British Consul-General in Cleveland, and his wife were guests of honour. A fashion show of Jaeger clothing, compered by Mr. J. Mulqueen, president of Jaeger International, New York, was the highlight of the evening.

British personalities appearing in the store included Mr. Raymond Klee, the artist, who drew a crowd of fascinated spectators to watch him painting his 'instant' pictures; Miss Barbara Ross, potter (Chelsea Pottery) busy at her wheel; Mr. Andrew Barr, demonstrating and selling his fine worked leather wall plaques and shields; Mr. John Hannah of the Chess Centre, who carved his chess pieces in the form of characters from Alice in Wonderland; and Mr. Brian Eley, the reigning British Chess Champion who played 30 games simultaneously with eager opponents of all ages. Also in attendance were Mr. John Potter of Condor Toys, creator and cutter of jigsaw puzzles, accompanied by what is believed to be the biggest jigsaw puzzle in the world, 8 ft. × 20 ft. in size, and Mr. Russell Greenslade, weaver of unusual wall hangings.

## Increased sales

British merchandise on sale at both the downtown store and branches included men's, women's, children's and infants' ready-to-wear, giftware, china, earthenware, glass, gourmet foodstuffs, brass and copper, kitchen aids, table linen, old books, antique and reproduction furniture.

Mr. William J. Carey, chairman of the board of Royal Doulton, attended the event and the company's two competitions for prize figurines etc. proved exceedingly popular.

The store declared the promotion, October 8-17, a success and was highly gratified with the amount of interest generated by the event and the increase in store traffic and sales arising from it.

# At the end of January London is the most important place in the Hardware World

The 20th HTF will be the largest and most comprehensive trade fair of its kind. Over 700 exhibitors, 30% of whom will show goods manufactured outside Britain will occupy the whole Olympia complex. Nearly 40,000 products for home, garden and workshop will be on show, many of them for the first time. Which is why the HTF attracts over 15,000 foreign visitors.

The HTF is an export-orientated fair with outstanding facilities for buyers from overseas. For exhibitors it provides a unique springboard for selling into the Common Market and the UK.

So if your business is hardware, write now for a detailed brochure and free admission tickets (trade enquiries only) to:

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Jan 28th–Feb 1st, 1974 Olympia London

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## BRU
## Export Finance Service

The BRU Export Finance Service provides accurate, up-to-date information on the terms at which exports are insured and financed in the United Kingdom, the United States, Western Germany, France, Italy and Japan.

This service, first introduced last December, by The Banker Research Unit in collaboration with Mr. Richard Fry has proved very successful in meeting the information requirements of both bankers and exporters throughout the world.

The subscription lists are now open again for the new year. for further details please write to or telephone:

THE BANKER RESEARCH UNIT,
Bracken House, 10 Cannon St, London EC4P 4BY.
Tel: 01-248 8000 Ext. 7168.

*Part of the BOTB-backed British joint venture section at last month's International Caravan Salon in Essen.*

# Stockholm fair: Embassy bulletin aids UK participants

**From J. G. B. Weait, British Embassy, Stockholm:** A joint venture group of 25 British companies participated in the Stockholm Technical Fair and a further 94 companies were represented by their Swedish agents. The British Compressed Air Society was, as last year, one of the sponsors of the joint venture, with six members taking part; the remaining 19 were members of the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

The fair, the 13th of the series, is an annual event and the largest of its kind in Scandinavia. Its continued popularity with British companies may be gauged from the fact that the British joint venture stands took up nearly one-tenth of the covered exhibition area. In all, there were 1,849 exhibitors from 25 countries. The total area employed was just under 14,000 sq. m, of which 1,500 sq. m was an outdoor site.

The main fields covered by the event were electronics, hydraulics, pneumatics, chemicals, metallurgy, machine tools, plastics, and materials handling and contractors machinery. British companies were well represented under nearly all these headings, either through the joint venture or their Swedish agents. The fair, held at the St. Erik's exhibition site, is not open to the general public. It nevertheless attracted 56,209 visitors and British exhibitors were generally pleased with the contacts they made and the impact made by their participation in the event, October 18-24.

The companies represented in the BCAS group were: Hydrovane Compressor Co. Ltd., with an exhibit of compressors; Maxam Power Ltd.; C. A. Norgren Ltd.; A. Schrader's Son; Thor Tools Ltd., which showed ranges of pneumatic tools and control equipment; and Trade and Technical Press Ltd. with a display of technical literature.

The Birmingham Chamber of Commerce group included Amphenol Ltd., which attracted many inquiries with its display of connectors and other electronic components. Also in the electronics field, Intercole Systems Ltd. exhibited its 'Compulog 2' range of data logging systems. Martonair International Ltd. showed a range of pneumatic control systems and 600 Machine Tools Ltd. showed a wide range of machine tools. Dexion Overseas Ltd.'s storage systems attracted attention and Columbus Dixon Ltd. displayed an extensive range of industrial floor maintenance equipment, ancillary equipment and chemical products. Other British companies participating in the joint venture group were Agemaspark Ltd. (whose AP50 spark erosion machine, incorporating a new fine finishing circuit, aroused considerable interest); Guyson International Ltd. (which introduced a new conveyor deburring machine at the exhibition); Inductotherm Europe Ltd. (with a new 100 kW variable induction power conversion system for foundry furnaces); Brockhouse Export Ltd.; Easterbrook Allcard & Co. Ltd.; ITT Fluid Handling Ltd.; Letraset International Ltd.; B. O. Morris Ltd.; Movitex Signs Ltd.; Redman Heenan Froude Ltd.; Tangye Epco Ltd.; Uniroyal Ltd.; and S. S. Whith Industrial Ltd.

Outside the BOTB-supported joint venture, S. E. Laboratories (Engineering) Ltd., a subsidiary of EMI, had a range of electronic instruments. The soldering machine exhibited by Fry's Metals Ltd.'s Swedish agent also attracted attention. Osborn Steel Extrusions Ltd. sent its sales manager to represent it on the Lival & Co. AB stand.

One way in which the British Embassy in Stockholm was able to help the British participants was by producing a Trade Fair Bulletin. Well in advance, the Central Office of Information asked members of the joint venture group for information and photographs in connection with the products and processes they proposed to exhibit. The material received was converted by the Embassy's Information Section into a well-produced offset publication in Swedish which was sent to all members of the Industriförbundet (the Swedish CBI) and of the Verkstadsförening (the Swedish Metal Working Trades Association); copies were also sent to newspapers and technical magazines and were available at the fair itself. A total of 5,000 copies were distributed. While the results were good, it is disappointing to note that a good number of the members of the joint venture group did not make use of this free service. If the exercise is repeated next year, it is to be hoped that all exhibitors will take advantage of it.

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*Members of a trade mission from the Peoples' Republic of China studying food processing and packaging machinery visited the 8th International Exhibition for the Food and Allied Industries at Olympia, London, last month. Photograph shows Mr. Li Chu, director of the Department of Cereals, Oils and Foodstuffs Corporation, and other members of the mission, being greeted by Mr. Donald Brooks, managing director of BPS Exhibitions, at the start of the tour of the show in which 200 firms took part.*

# BOTB-backed tour will investigate potential for investment in Canada

THE British Overseas Trade Board is arranging and financially assisting an important mission to Canada next spring to investigate the potential for investment in major Canadian development projects and generally to assess the market.

This project officially reciprocates the Canadian mission to the United Kingdom led by Premier Davis of Ontario in May of this year. Co-sponsors will be the London Chamber of Commerce and Lord Tweedsmuir will lead the group.

The mission is envisaged as having 12 to 20 members, these to be senior executives of important companies serving the industrial and capital market, including the financial services sector. The group will leave for Ontario on March 24, 1974, and remain in Canada for two weeks.

Those interested in taking part should contact Mr. P. Ovans, London Chamber of Commerce and Industry, 69 Cannon Street, London EC4; tel. 01-248 4444.

## The biggest-ever party of foreign food-buyers in full UK programme

PARTY of 19 Belgian food buyers visited this country for three days last week. Organised by the British Food Export Council in conjunction with the British Overseas Trade Board, it was the largest-ever group of foreign food-buyers to come to Britain on a single mission.

The response by the British food manufacturers was equally enthusiastic, with a record 50 companies wishing to meet the Belgians. Sample shows formed the main point of contact in a full programme arranged to cover the period spent here.

The visitors represented the major retail outlets in Belgium and Luxembourg. In addition, for the first time, two buyers of food ingredients and semi-manufactured products were especially included in the party. They represented the largest biscuit manufacturer on the Continent and the largest producer of chocolate and confectionery in Belgium and had a special programme arranged for them by BFEC.

## Hong Kong entertains British businessmen on trade study tour

TOP-LEVEL group of 13 firms from all over the United Kingdom returned last week after intensive 10-day study tour of Hong Kong.

The group, representing some of Britain's leading industrial and retail organisations, with a combined turnover of more than £1,000 million, looked at Hong Kong with a view to developing both imports and exports. Hong Kong was also anxious to demonstrate to the British visitors the advantages of 'joint venture' manufacturing and the considerable opportunities for industrial investment which exist.

Also emphasised was progress made by manufacturers in establishing Hong Kong as a supplier of high quality merchandise.

Firms represented in the group, invited by the Hong Kong Trade Development Council in co-operation with British Airways, included The Boots Co. Ltd., the Dowty Group Ltd., Thorn Domestic Appliances Ltd., Ultra Electronic Holdings Ltd., Wiggins Teape (Stationery) Ltd., Jeltek Ltd., Bourne & Hollingsworth Ltd., Empire Stores (Bradford) Ltd., Etam Ltd., A. Goldberg & Sons Ltd. of Glasgow, Peter Robinson Ltd., Brown, Muff and Co. Ltd. of Bradford and Mikardo & Co. Ltd.

Included in a crowded programme, November 15-25, were discussions with the Hong Kong Trade Development Council, the Commerce and Industry Department of the Hong Kong Government, the Federation of Hong Kong Industries and the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce. The group also had many opportunities for visiting factories and other business organisations, as well as meetings with leading personalities in Hong Kong business, banking and financial circles.

# CBI delegation to Romania sees President

**From R. M. Russell, Commercial Counsellor, British Embassy, Bucharest:** A mission sponsored by the Confederation of British Industry visited Romania at the invitation of the Romanian Chamber of Commerce. The 35-man mission was led by the Deputy-President and President-Elect of CBI, Mr. Ralph Bateman.

The participants were drawn from companies, large and small covering a wide range of industries and included companies well experienced in trading with Romania, together with those new both to this market and to Eastern European trading.

The main objectives of the visit were to demonstrate: the interest of British industry in developing trade with Romania; to show that this interest is at least the equal of that of our main commercial competitors; to indicate that we have fully taken on board Romanian interest in industrial co-operation and joint ventures and are capable of handling such deals where there is mutual advantage; to open the doors for British businessmen at a higher level than they could normally open; to open up new possibilities of business, particularly in terms of the 1976-80 Five Year Plan; and to accelerate negotiations already under way.

In addition to a programme of individual meetings drawn up by the Romanian Chamber of Commerce for each participant at working level, a number of group meetings were held at Ministerial level. The delegation also had a plenary meeting with the Romanian Chamber of Commerce, chaired by the Chamber's President, Dr. Roman Moldovan, and attended by representatives of all the major Romanian Ministries.

Mr. Ion Patan, Vice-President of the Council of Ministers and Minister of Foreign Trade, received the delegation and, in addition to talking generally on Romania's foreign trade, held a question-and-answer session at which a number of problems encountered by individual companies were discussed. At a further meeting Mr. Manea Manescu, Chairman of the State Planning Committee, gave an exposé on the Romanian economy with particular reference to the next Five Year Plan which will see a further major expansion of Romania's industry.

The highlight of the week, October 14-20, however, was a 95-minute plenary session in the Council of State held by the President of the Council of State and Head of State, Mr. Nicolae Ceausescu, at which he was accompanied by senior members of the Romanian Party and Government. Mr. Ceausescu said that he welcomed the interest shown by British industry in Romania and he stressed the particular importance which Romania attached to developing co-operation. The President also readily answered questions put to him by members of the mission.

Reaction from the members of the mission at the end of the visit showed that they had achieved much more than they had expected: new business has been opened up, new contacts made and several companies appear to have gone a long way toward resolving problems which have been long standing.

In an interview with the Romanian press at the end of the visit Mr. Bateman said it had been encouraging and fruitful. Progress had been made on a number of co-operation ventures already under discussion. New possibilities for co-operation both in Romania and third markets had been discovered. He very much hoped that concrete results would emerge as a result of discussions held during the week.

# Development Corporation for Wales launches mission to South Africa

ELEPHANT hide watch straps made in the Rhondda Valley, components for television, and scientific and laboratory glassware are among products being promoted by Welsh companies on a British Overseas Trade Board-supported mission to South Africa which left Cardiff last week. Sponsored and organised by the Development Corporation for Wales, the mission, comprising 20 Welsh companies, will spend 16 days in South Africa, visiting Johannesburg, Durban and Cape Town.

This is the Corporation's second trade mission to the Southern Hemisphere this year, the first being to Australia during September, which returned with immediate orders totalling £400,000 and follow-up orders totalling a further £1.5 million.

The mission is led by Mr. D. G. Badham, chairman of the Development Corporation for Wales. The organising secretary is Mr. Meirion Lewis, Corporation chief executive.

Mr. Badham said: 'South Africa is one of Britain's best export markets and this mission has proved extremely popular with companies in Wales. It is heavily over-subscribed and, as a result, we are hoping to arrange another mission to South Africa next year. Most of the members of the mission are visiting the country for the first time, and they hope to appoint agents or distributors during their stay.

'During the tour we will be meeting representatives of industrial and commercial organisations in Johannesburg, Durban and Cape Town, with a view to establishing closer business relationships and we shall be exploring opportunities for further trade development between Wales and South Africa.'

The companies represented on the mission, November 24-December 10, are: Pearl Paints Ltd., Pontypridd; Aluminium Corporation Ltd., Caernarvonshire; Cleal (Glyn-y-Mel) Ltd., Pembrokeshire; Star Sheet Metal Works Ltd., Cardiff; Mendle Brothers Ltd., Rhondda; Royal Worcester Industrial Ceramics Ltd., Tonyrefail; Crompton Electricars Ltd., Tredegar; Apollo Leather Products Ltd., Tonypandy; P. Leiner & Sons (Encapsulations) Ltd., Treforest; D.I.M.O., Ltd., Cwmbran; A.B. Electronic Components Ltd., Abercynon; Engart Fans Ltd., Aberdare; Dendix Brushes Ltd., Chepstow; Morbank Ltd., Pontypridd; Nipa Laboratories Ltd., Pontypridd; Sigmar Developments, Caerphilly; Alfred Cook (Precision Engineers) Ltd., Cardiff; Reinforced Plastics Applications (Swansea) Ltd.; Perkin-Elmer Ltd., Pontyclun; Palmer Research Laboratories Ltd., Holywell.

## Senior Soviet officials review UK technology

MR. Dimitri Pronsky, Head of the Foreign Relations Department of the Soviet State Committee for Science and Technology, arrived in London for a nine-day visit earlier this month.

He was accompanied by Mr. Mihail Lopatin, a Councillor from the State Committee, and Mr. Anatole Chuev, Head of the United Kingdom Department, together with representatives from the Ministries of Light Industry, Oil Industry and Electronics and Electrotechnics.

Their programme, arranged by CBI, included visits to the Midlands, Lancashire, Yorkshire and Scotland to meet companies involved in textiles, electronics and oil exploration.

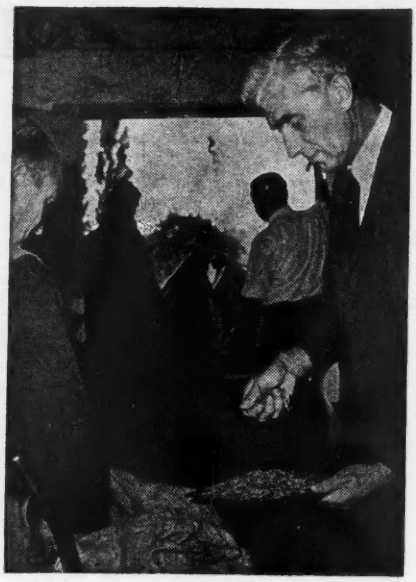
Mr. Pronsky and his colleagues reviewed with CBI and DTI officials progress made on industrial and technological collaboration since the last meeting of the Anglo-Soviet Joint Commission in Moscow in April 1973.

The Soviet officials also discussed, with representatives of United Kingdom industry, proposals for industrial and technological co-operation. This followed the visit the previous week of Deputy Minister Manzuolo, from the Ministry of Foreign Trade, concerning the long-term agreement on economic, scientific, technical and industrial co-operation between the two countries.

## Hong Kong housing plan cues constructive action

THE London Chamber of Commerce and Industry is proposing to sponsor a mission to Hong Kong early in 1974 to investigate possibilities for export by British construction companies.

The Chamber, from which details are available, notes that the Hong Kong Government has announced a scheme to house 1.5 million people over a 10-year period.



*Examining samples of rough grain at the warehouse is Mr. Russell Clifton, managing director, Gascoyne Seeds Ltd., who hopes to introduce its range to Cyprus and Iran during this month's Birmingham Chamber of Commerce and Industry trade mission. During the tour, Mr. Clifton plans to meet senior agricultural officials in the two countries with a view to arranging agency and licensing agreements.*

## Making tour of Australia, New Zealand, Hong Kong

MR. J. Hugh Neill, chairman and chief executive of James Neill Holdings Ltd., Sheffield-based hand tool manufacturer, is spending four weeks visiting the marketing subsidiaries and manufacturing associates in Australia and New Zealand.

He is visiting Singapore, Melbourne, Wellington, Auckland, Christchurch and Sydney, as well as Hong Kong. He will have discussions with his group's subsidiary and associate companies in Australia and New Zealand and also with agents and customers.

During his tour, Mr. Neill will also meet British Consul Generals in his capacity as a member of the British Overseas Trade Board to which he was appointed earlier this year. He is due to arrive home on December 16.

## Leicester and County Chamber of Commerce tour of Brazil, Mexico

EIGHT-MAN mission mounted by Leicester and County Chamber of Commerce left earlier this month for a 15-day sales drive in Brazil and Mexico. It is led by Mr. J. W. Polito, the Chamber's president, who is a director of G. Stibbe and Co., and is comprised of manufacturers of capital goods.

The BOTB-supported mission's first port of call is Sao Paulo and it was also planning to visit Minas Gerais, another industrial centre, before moving to Mexico. There, the mission is spending a short time in Mexico City and is hoping to visit other Mexican industrial centres before returning to Leicester.

The Leicester Chamber was last in Mexico in 1969 when textile machinery producers taking part reported excellent business from the Pueblo region. The Chamber has also visited Brazil previously.

*A group of engineers from the machine tool industry of Southern Germany examining equipment produced by Dowty Servos when they visited Dowty Group factories at Arle Court, Cheltenham.*

# Import Duties (Temporary Exemptions) Orders

THE Treasury has made the following import duties Orders:

**The Import Duties (Temporary Exemptions) (No. 24) Order 1973.** This Order provides that Undec-10-enoic acid of a purity not less than 98 per cent and certain longitudinally butt-welded steel pipe shall be temporarily exempt from import duty up to and including December 31, 1973. The Order came into operation on October 18, 1973 and has been published as Statutory Instrument 1973 No. 1711.

**The Import Duties (Temporary Exemptions) (No. 25) Order 1973.** This Order provides that the goods listed in the schedule, being certain chemicals, plastic materials and steel products, shall be temporarily exempt from import duty up to and including December 31, 1973. The Order came into operation on November 14, 1973 and has been published as Statutory Instrument 1973 No. 1747.

**The Import Duties (Temporary Exemptions) (No. 26) Order 1973.** This Order continues up to and including December 31, 1973 the temporary exemption from import duty of oil seeds, oilflour and oil cake and further provides that certain dried white beans and barban shall be temporarily exempt from import duty up to and including December 31, 1973. The Order came into operation on November 1, 1973 and has been published as Statutory Instrument 1973 No. 1807.

**The Import Duties (Temporary Reductions and Exemptions) Order 1973.** This Order provides that the goods listed in the schedules shall be subject to a reduction in or exemption from import duty up to and including June 30, 1974 or, in the case of goods listed in schedule 1, until the earlier dates there specified.

The reduced rates of duty are lower for goods qualifying for Commonwealth preference than for goods which are subject to the full rate (or any rate higher than the reduced rate, eg in some cases goods of countries associated with the European Economic Community). The reductions in the case of Commonwealth preference do not effect any greater reductions and exemptions available, apart from this Order, in the case of goods of part only of the Commonwealth preference area.

Goods affected by this Order are subject to whole or partial suspension of duty in the Community's Common Customs Tariff and the exemptions and reductions in this Order are made in accordance with the United Kingdom's obligations. The Order will come into operation on January 1, 1974 and has been published as Statutory Instrument 1973 No. 1844. (*See also pages 475-6*).

Copies of these Orders are available from Her Majesty's Stationery Office, 49 High Holborn, London, WC1 and branches or by post from HMSO, PO Box 569, London, SE1.

## Tariff quota for new potatoes from Cyprus

UNDER the terms of the Agreement between the European Economic Community and Cyprus and the Protocol adapting the Agreement following accession of the new Member States, Cyprus is entitled to annual tariff quotas, free of customs duties, in respect of imports into the United Kingdom of new potatoes (CCT Subheading 07.01 A II). Discussions on the size of the quota for 1974 are still proceeding.

Under tariff quotas a limited amount of goods may be imported at a rate of duty below the normal rate. General information about tariff quotas is to be found in Customs Notice 771 of March 1973 (available free from any Customs House or office of a Collector of Customs and Excise in the United Kingdom) and in articles in *Trade and Industry* of February 15, 1973 and October 11, 1973.

Goods imported under tariff quotas may either be debited against the importing country's quota as and when they are declared by importers to Customs for home use (known as the 'greyhound' method) or firms may be invited to apply for authority entitling them to receive a specified quantity during the quota period (prior allocation). (See Customs Notice 771). The Department of Trade and Industry is considering which method of allocation would be suitable for this tariff quota, and traders who have imported new potatoes from Cyprus during the last three years are asked to write to the Department of Trade and Industry, Tariff Division, Room 333 Kingsgate House, 66-74 Victoria St., London SW1E 6SJ giving details of quantities imported from Cyprus during the years 1971, 1972 and the first six months of 1973. This information should be received by the Department of Trade and Industry not later than December 15, 1973.

### Note

Tariff quotas provide for the import of specified amounts of goods at reduced tariff rates. Any goods in excess of a tariff quota are charged the normal rate. Tariff quotas do not in themselves constitute any quantitative restriction on imports.

*The James Bay hydro-electric project in Quebec demands some of the largest transformers to be made in North America, and the stringent tests which they have to undergo are carried out at the Hydro-Quebec Institute of Research at Variennes near Montreal. To enable these tests to be made, Brentford Electric Ltd., Crawley, Sussex, has supplied three of the largest voltage regulating transformers ever produced—rated at 5.2 mVA each, single phase: the picture shows two of the three being given control stability checks prior to shipment to Canada.*

**CRE** Commercial Relations and Exports Divisions
Department of Trade and Industry
1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET
Tel. 01-222 7877

**EDB** Export Data Branch, Export Services Division
Department of Trade and Industry
Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU
Tel. 01-248 5757

## Applications for temporary exemption from import duty

THE Department of Trade and Industry is considering applications for the temporary exemption from import duty of the materials listed below on the grounds that these materials are not made in this country or the Commonwealth or the supply available from these sources is not substantial having regard to the existing United Kingdom demand.

Representations are invited from manufacturers in this country or agents of Commonwealth manufacturers who consider they are, or will be within a reasonable period, in a position to supply a substantial proportion of the United Kingdom demand for these materials, or who are interested in their future production.

Temporary exemptions come into effect on the operative date of the Treasury Order in which the materials are specified and normally continue until the end of the current calendar year, when they are reviewed.

Interested parties who wish to make representations should address them to Tariff Division, Department of Trade and Industry, Kingsgate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SJ, preferably through a Trade Association, giving the respective reference shown below and stating whether their names may be passed to the applicants for temporary exemption. Representations should be received by December 13.

| Tariff heading | Proposed definition for tariff purposes | Applied for as | Exemption required until | Reference |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 29.23 | 5-Amino-4-hydroxynaphthalene-2-sulphonic acid | 1-Amino-8-naphthol-6-sulphonic acid | December 31, 1974 | 14652 |
| | 1-Methylaminoanthraquinone | 1-N-Methylamino anthraquinone | December 31, 1974 | 14640 |
| 29.27 | Malononitrile | as in previous column | December 31, 1974 | 14762 |
| 29.35 | 6-Amino-13*H*-naphth[2,3-*c*] acridine-5,8,14-trione | 2-Amino-3,4-phthaloylacridone | December 31, 1974 | 14651 |

## Mr. Peter Walker visiting Iran

MR. Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, is visiting Iran from November 27 to December 2.

Mr. Walker will be attending the final sessions of an Iran-United Kingdom Investment Conference at Persepolis held under the auspices of the Iranian Ministry of Economy and the Confederation of British Industry, with the full support of the British Government.

Mr. Walker will also be holding talks with Iranian Ministers on trade and economic matters.

## Liberia: £3.5m credit for British capital goods

THE Export Credits Guarantee Department has guaranteed a £3 million loan which Morgan Grenfell and Co. Ltd has provided for the Liberian Ministry of Finance. This loan will enable Liberian buyers to purchase under a line of credit over £3.5 million of UK capital goods and associated services. Among the goods expected to be included under the credit are road-making machinery, earth-moving equipment, and heavy vehicles, to be used in a land reclamation scheme.

Individual contracts, which will be nominated by the Government of Liberia and which must have a value of at least £50,000, will be placed over the next 18 months. Repayment of the loan, which Morgan Grenfell arranged on behalf of Williams and Glyn's Bank Ltd., will be over five years.

Exporters interested in the line of credit should contact Mr. P. F. Day of ECGD (tel. 01-606 6699 ext. 211) or Mr. J. S. S. Syrett of Morgan Grenfell (tel. 01-588 4545).

## Romania: petrol coupons for visitors

UNDER a decree issued on November 17, businessmen or tourists travelling in Romania by car may obtain petrol only in exchange for coupons which they may purchase with convertible currencies from the National Tourist Office (ONT). On their departure from Romania, visitors may purchase sufficient petrol to travel only 100 kilometres past the border.

The decree also introduces speed limits as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Cars with engines over 2,000 cc | 100 km/hour |
| Cars with engines of 1,500 to 2,000 cc | 90 km/hour |
| Cars with engines below 1,500 cc | 80 km/hour |
| Maximum speed in built-up areas | 60 km/hour. |

**CRE ext. 5266/5267**

## Libya: income tax legislation

THE Revenue Department of the Libyan Ministry of Treasury has issued a new Income Tax Law, a translation of which is available. The new tax rates will be of interest to UK firms carrying out (or intending to take on) work in Libya on a taxable contract and who have staff working in Libya paying Libyan income tax. The new rates do not affect companies supplying goods to Libya, as supply contracts are almost invariably not subject to payment of Libyan company tax. **CRE ext. 5358/5225**

## Hints to business men booklets

REVISED edition of the booklet on Argentina has been published in the 'Hints to business men' series. British business men who intend visiting this country on export business can obtain copies of the booklet on application to Export Services and Promotions Division, Department of Trade and Industry, Room D05-09, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel: 01-248 5757, ext. 7146) or to any Regional Office of the Department of Trade and Industry.


**LIBYAN ARAB REPUBLIC**
**Central Tenders Board**

The Central Tenders Board invited bids to Tender No. 19/73 to undertake supplying/construction of:

**Irrigation system, soil, salt-leching and drainage system, wind protection, electric supply and electric network, main and secondary roads. Construction of the settlement centres buildings including houses. Construction of 109 Farm houses. Water and sewage network for the settlement centres in the Sebha and Traghen area.**

Specifications and Conditions are obtainable against an unrefundable fee of 200 Libyan Dinars, from:

**Council of Agricultural Development, Trik El-Fath, Tripoli, Libyan Arab Republic.**

*The closing date of this Tender is 12th January, 1974.*

**COUNCIL FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT**

**LIBYAN ARAB REPUBLIC**

**The Council for Agricultural Development in the Libyan Arab Republic, announces the extension of deadline for the International Tender No. 16, concerning the execution of the second stage of the "Kufra Settlement Project" until Saturday the 15th December, 1973.**

Tender documents and accompaniments to be marked on the outside "Second Stage of Kufra Project" and addressed to the Council for Agricultural Development, Tripoli, Libyan Arab Republic.

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# TARIFF & TRADE NOTICES

In many cases further information on the notices published on these pages is available from the Department of Trade and Industry. The main branches concerned are: Commercial Relations and Exports (CRE) Divisions, DTI, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET (tel: 01-222 7877); and Export Data Branch (EDB), DTI, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel: 01-248 5757). In each case, the relevant information source is indicated at the end of the notice by its initials (CRE or EDB) and the appropriate telephone extension number. In the Tariff and Trade Notices section countries are grouped by continents as far as possible; they are listed alphabetically on the contents page.

## Netherlands

**EXCISE DUTIES ON WINES AND SPARKLING BEVERAGES:** Following the revaluation of the Dutch Guilder in September 1973 a decree of October 8, 1973, published in *Staatsblad* on October 30, 1973, modifies the excise duties on wine and on sparkling beverages (*Staatsblad* 1973, 500). The Dutch text of the decree is available.

**EDB ext. 466/467/288**

## France

**DUTY-REDUCED QUOTA FOR SEED POTATOES:** The French *Journal Officiel*, November 1, 1973 gave further details of the quota for seed potatoes (tariff no. 07.01 AIa) to be imported at a reduced rate of duty until June 30, 1974 (see *Trade and Industry*, November 22, 1973, page 423).

Applications for import licences must conform with the conditions set out in the arrêtés of October 12, 1962 and October 1, 1963. They should be addressed, together with a stamped envelope bearing the name and address of the applicant, to the Bureau des fruits et légumes (Direction des productions végétales), Ministère de l'Agriculture et du Developpement rural, 3 rue Barbet-de-Jouy, Paris, 7e. Applications must be confined to the following varieties:

Early: Bea, Esterling, Ostara, Primura, Resy, Jose, Spunta, Sirtema, Alemaria, Jaerla, Prima, Colmo.

Floury: Ambassadeur, Daresa, Flora, Maritta, Panther, Thynia, Ultimus, Amex, Kaptah-Vandel, Commandeur, Calori, Goliath, Format, Multa, Bohm's-Bodenkraft, Patroness, Brunella, Ursula, Prevalent, Amigo, Saturna, Rector, Prominent, Procura, Kastor, Tasso.

Separate applications must be made for early varieties and the floury varieties. Each application must not be for more than 230 metric tons.

*Racal Instruments Ltd. has concluded an agreement for ITT Metrix to market its products throughout France. The picture shows Mr. Peter Ades, Racal Instruments' export director (left), and Mr. Hans-Hellmut Wilde, resale manager, ITT-Metrix, with the 3GHz frequency meter, one of the latest instruments to be announced by the Windsor company and part of the range to be marketed by ITT Metrix.*

Potatoes imported into France are subject to the sanitary controls laid down in an Order dated November 8, 1954 and they must be routed through a customs post open for phytosanitary control. A list of these posts was given in an Order dated March 5, 1962.

Copies of the French text can be sent on request or seen at Export House. **EDB ext. 423/408/482**

## Spain

**DUTY-FREE IMPORT QUOTAS—Sheets of iron or steel:** Notice was given in *Trade and Industry*, September 6, 1973 (page 485) of duty-free import quotas of iron and steel valid until December 31, 1973. The Spanish *State Gazette*, October 31, 1973 announced that the duty-free import quotas are increased by the following amount in tonnes. Validity is still December 31, 1973.

| Tariff no. | Description | Quota in tonnes |
|---|---|---|
| 73.13.D.2.d | Cold-rolled steel coils, not annealed less than 0.3 mm thick for making tinplate | 3,000 |
| 73.12.D.1 and 73.13.D.3.a | First quality tinplate and iron and steel tin coated strip minimum side size over 457 mm | 10,000 |
| 73.13.D.1.a | Hot-rolled steel sheets with high elastic limit or boilers quality, fine grain, and high suitability to be welded, 12 mm thick and over, 2,000 mm wide and over, and with classification certificate, suitable to make pressure vessels, tanks, boilers, furnaces and large size structures | 20,000 |
| 73.13.D.1.a | Steel sheeting used in shipbuilding | 20,000 |
| 73.13.D.2 | Not further worked than cold-rolled or cold-finished, of a thickness of: | |
| c | less than 2 but not less than 0.5 mm | 11,000 |

**Iron and steel products:** Notice was given in *Trade and Industry*, September 6, 1973 (page 485) of duty-free import quotas of iron and steel products valid until December 31, 1973. The Spanish *State Gazette*, October 31, 1973 announced the introduction of new subheadings to be included in the duty-free import quotas, valid until December 31, 1973 as follows:

| Tariff no. | Description | Quota in tonnes |
|---|---|---|
| 73.07 | Blooms, billets, slabs and sheet bars (including tinplate bars) of iron or steel: pieces roughly shaped by forging of iron or steel: | |
| A | Of unalloyed special steel: | |
| 1.a | Billets: 50 and 60 mm laminated | 50,000 |
| • B.1.a | | |
| 73.07.A.1.a | 70 mm wide | 10,000 |
| •73.07.B.1.a | | |
| 73.07.A.1.a | 80 mm wide | 20,000 |
| •73.07.B.1.a | | |
| 73.10.A.1 | Alambron (wire rod) | 50,000 |
| 73.10.B.1 | | |
| •73.15.C.5.a | | |

• New subheadings included in quotas.

**EDB ext. 462/471/472/473**

**REGISTRATION OF TECHNOLOGY TRANSFERS:** The Spanish *State Gazette* of October 2, 1973, published Decree 2343/1973 of September 21, on the control of technology transfers.

The decree requires the registration of all existing and future licensing, royalty and other agreements which involve technology transfers from abroad. Copies of an English translation of the decree may be obtained from CRE 3. **CRE ext. 3476**

**IMPORT DUTY REDUCTIONS AND SUSPENSIONS — TEXTILE PRODUCTS:** The Spanish *State Gazette*, November 10, 1973 published Decree 2781/1973 reducing or suspending until February 9, 1974 the import duty on certain manufactured textile products as well as raw materials used in their manufacture.
**EDB ext. 462/471/472/473**

## Algeria

**STATE TRADING ORGANISATIONS:** The great majority of Algeria's import and export trade is controlled by the executive arm of the socialist government—the state trading organisations. A handout with the title 'The Socialist Sector', listing the state organisations and their responsibilities, can be obtained from the Department. **CRE ext. 5358/EDB ext. 372**

## Ethiopia

**CUSTOMS TARIFF AMENDMENTS:** The National Bank of Ethiopia Quarterly Bulletin of September 1973 shows new customs tariff rates, wordings and additional items, effective from July 6, 1973, under the following tariff headings and numbers:

**Class I—Animals, agricultural, marine, and pastoral products and foodstuffs**
2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 16, 17, 21, 22, 24, 26, 29, 45, 47, 52.

**Class II—Beverages**
74.

**Class IV—Textiles, fibres, yarns and manufactures thereof**
98, 127.

**Class V—Metals and manufactures thereof**
147, 148, 156, 164, 165, 166, 167, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 181, 186, 188, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 202, 212, 214, 215, 217, 218, 219, 225, 230, 236.

**Class VI—Minerals, earthenware and glassware**
243, 253, 259.

**Class VII—Oils, waxes, resins, paints and varnishes**
274, 276, 282.

**Class VIII—Chemicals, drugs and fertilisers**
302, 312.

**Class IX—Leather, rubber and manufactures thereof**
327, 328.

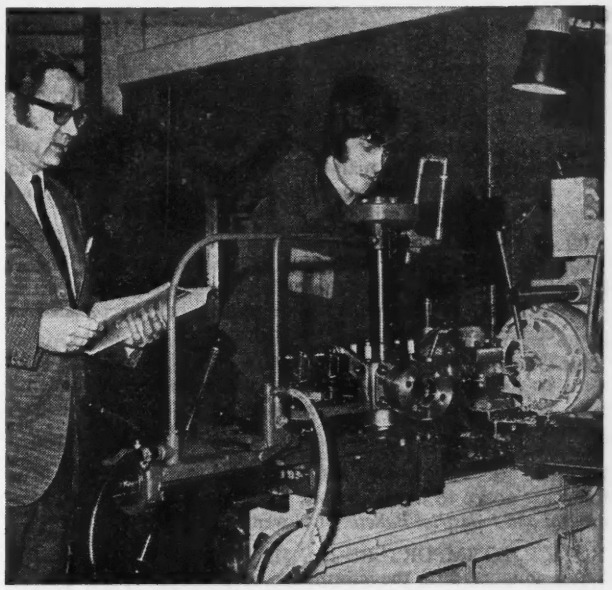
**Class X—Wood and wood manufactures**
350.

**Class XI—Books, stationery, paper and paper manufactures**
358, 369, 378, 380.

**Class XII—Fancy goods, timepieces, musical instruments and sundries**
386, 387, 402, 411, 418, 423, 424, 426, 427.

**Class XIII—General**
429.

**Note:** These amendments which include changes in the rates of duties, new wordings and additional items are too long to be reproduced here in full. Exporters are advised to contact Export Data Branch to confirm the position for any commodities in which they are interested. **EDB ext. 471/472/473/462**



*An apprentice of H. W. Ward and Co., Birmingham, gets extra tuition on a Scholar capstan lathe by the company's export sales executive, Mr. Derek Hadley, who is leading Birmingham Engineering and Building Centre's current mission to Nigeria (November 25 to December 6). Mr. Hadley is having discussions with Nigerian education authorities about a training programme for the use of capstan and turret lathes, and is renewing contacts with Nigerian companies which he made at the British Industrial Exhibition in Lagos last February.*

## Ghana

**IMPORT LICENSING:** A notice published in *Trade and Industry* November 8, 1973 (page 298) requested importers to submit letters of credit in respect of licences issued since January 1972.

The following Notice to Importers No. 416 has now been published in the Ghana *Commercial and Industrial Bulletin* of November 2, 1973:

The Controller of Imports and Exports wishes to make the following clarification regarding recent press releases for the information and compliance of importers:

(a) Importers can either submit copies of the letters of credit they opened in respect of all licences issued to them since January 1972 or clearly readable single photo prints or typewritten extracts of the reverse sides of import licences issued to them during this period indicating the endorsements in respect of letters of credit they have opened or sight payment drafts which they have honoured. In all such cases, the original import licences must be attached to these documents and after these have been verified, the original import licences shall be returned to their owners. For the import licences which have not yet been fully used and are required by importers for their current transactions, abstracts of the endorsements of utilisation of these import licences, certified as correct by the bankers of the importer, should be submitted for use in considering the applications for import

*(continued on next page)*

*Write or phone the Specialists:*
**A. C. SHAW (EXPORT) SALES CO. LIMITED**
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Export Procedure and Documentation—only 40p post paid.

## GHANA
*continued*

licences for 1974. Importers should enclose stamped, self-addressed envelopes for the speedy return of the original import licences they have submitted.

(b) The operative validity period of import licences will be calculated as from January 1, 1974. Importers are advised to make prompt arrangements to use their licences in order not to forfeit import privileges.

(c) As from January 1, 1974, importers have to furnish, before the end of each quarter, returns on the utilisation of each import licence issued to them. There shall be one return in respect of each import licence and each return shall be certified as correct by the bankers of the importer.

(d) The import licence levy as published by N.R.C.D. 197 shall be collected at the same time as customs duties on the items imported. These instructions supersede the previous press releases. **EDB ext. 471/472/473**

**REVIEW OF LIST OF REGISTERED IMPORTERS:** The following notice to importers was published in the Ghana *Commercial and Industrial Bulletin* of November 2, 1973.

NOTICE TO IMPORTERS No. 415

It is announced for the information of all Commercial Importers that it is intended to revise the present list of Registered Importers. To help with this exercise, all registered importers are requested to forward the following documents:

(a) Valid Social Security Clearance Certificate;

(b) 1972-73 turn-over to be supplied by bankers;

(c) 1972-73 income tax receipts showing tax paid;

to reach the Controller of Imports and Exports, Ministry of Trade and Tourism, PO Box M.47, Accra, not later than November 16, 1973.

2. Any importer who fails to comply with the above notice by the closing date stated above will be deemed to have ceased doing import business and his/her company's name will be struck off the Register of Importers.

3. Importers are required to quote their current registration numbers on all their documents. **EDB ext. 471/472/473**

**PRE-ENTRY SYSTEM:** A notice in the Ghana *Commercial and Industrial Bulletin*, November 9, 1973, gives details of the conditions under which the pre-entry and pre-payment of duty on goods imported into Ghana will be permitted. **EDB ext. 471/472/473**

## Zambia

**SOAP AND SCOURING POWDERS—DUTY SUSPENDED:** The Zambia Customs and Excise (Suspension) Amendment No. 6 Regulations 1973 amend the schedule to the Customs and Excise (Suspension) Regulations 1970 by the insertion of the following under the appropriate headings:

| Heading no. | Description of goods | Effective rate of duty |
|---|---|---|
| 34.01.10 | Toilet soap in tablet form, when imported by persons approved by the Minister and under such conditions as may be determined by the Minister | Free |
| 34.01.20 | Shaving soap, when imported by persons approved by the Minister and under such conditions as may be determined by the Minister | Free |
| 34.01.30 | Common, laundry and household soap, when imported by persons approved by the Minister and under such conditions as may be determined by the Minister | Free |
| 34.01.40 | Soft and saddle soap, when imported by persons approved by the Minister and under such conditions as may be determined by the Minister | Free |
| 34.01.90 | Other, when imported by persons approved by the Minister and under such conditions as may be determined by the Minister | Free |
| 34.02.10 | Of a kind used as a substitute for soap, when imported by persons approved by the Minister and under such conditions as may be determined by the Minister | Free |
| 34.02.90 | Other, when imported by persons approved by the Minister and under such conditions as may be determined by the Minister | Free |
| 34.05.10 | Scouring powders, when imported by persons approved by the Minister and under such conditions as may be determined by the Minister | Free |

**EDB ext. 461/462**

## Malawi

**CURRENCY EXCHANGE RATES:** The Malawi Minister of Finance, who is also the Governor of the Reserve Bank of Malawi, announced on November 18 that the Government of Malawi had decided to break the link between the Malawi Kwacha and sterling. From November 19 the exchange rates of the Kwacha are being fixed daily by the Reserve Bank 'so that the value of the Kwacha will equal an average of the value of sterling and US dollar rate'. As previously, the exchange rate of the Kwacha against the currencies of Malawi's other principal trading partners is being based on quotations in foreign exchange markets consistent with the exchange rate of the Kwacha to sterling and the US dollar.
**EDB ext. 461/462**

## South Africa

**TARIFF CHANGES:** The following amendments were published in the South African *Government Gazette*, November 19, 1973:

R. 2090 BN 76.04
The duty on aluminium foil laminated to artificial plastic material and reinforced with glass or sisal fibre, in rolls of a width exceeding 1.2 m, commonly used as insulation material in buildings is reduced to free.

R. 2101 BN 39.01
The effect of this notice is that the duty on epoxide resins is increased to 20 per cent.

INDUSTRIAL REBATES

R. 2091 BN 10.01 and 27.10
1. Provision is made for a rebate of the full duty on durum wheat for the manufacture of macaroni, spaghetti and similar products.
2. The provision of a rebate of duty on residual fuel oil for use in the reduction of iron ores is extended to include residual fuel oil used in the reduction of manganese ores.

GENERAL REBATES

R. 2103 BN 56.01, 56.02, 56.03 and 56.04
Provision is made for a rebate of the full duty on polyester fibres (discontinuous), on waste of polyester fibres (continuous or discontinuous) and on continuous filament tow for the manufacture of polyester fibres, in such quantities and at such times as the Secretary for Industries may allow by specific permit.

R. 2102 BN 39.01
Provision is made for a rebate of duty on epoxide resins in such quantities and at such times as the Secretary for Industries may allow by specific permit.

EXCISE DUTY REBATES

R. 2092 BN 105.10
The provision for a rebate of excise duty on residual fuel oil for use in the reduction of iron ores is extended to include residual fuel oil used in the reduction of manganese ores.

**EDB ext. 471/472/473/462**

**AGRICULTURAL REMEDIES—PROPOSED REGULATIONS:** South African *Government Gazette* No. 4073 of November 9, 1973, carries details of proposed new regulations, under the Fertilizers, Farm Feeds, Agricultural Remedies and Stock Remedies Act, 1947, on the registration, importation, manufacture, movement, and sale of agricultural remedies. Representations on the proposals should be made, before December 7, to the Secretary for Agricultural Technical Services, Private Bag X 116, Pretoria.
**CRE ext. 5274**

## Malaysia

**IMPORT CONTROL—TUBES AND FITTINGS:** The Malaysian *Government Gazette* has published an amendment to the Customs (Prohibition of Imports) (Temporary Protective Measure) Order 1973. The Customs (Prohibition of Imports) (Temporary Protective Measure) (Amendment) (No. 11) Order 1973 amends the Second and Fifth Schedules to the order by inserting the following

| Heading no. | Description | Country |
|---|---|---|
| 73.20.200 | Tubes and pipe fittings of iron or steel, other than of cast iron, of less than six inches in internal diameter | All countries |

Second Schedule: Goods prohibited from import into West Malaysia without an import licence.

Fifth Schedule: Goods prohibited from import into Penang without an import licence. **EDB ext. 469/468/401**

**CUSTOMS DUTIES (PENANG)—METAL STRUCTURES, ETC., WEEDKILLER:** The Malaysian *Government Gazette* has published the following amendments to the Customs Duties (Penang) Order 1973:

**Metal structures, etc.** The Customs Duties (Amendment) (No. 11) Order 1973 amends the schedule to the order by deleting heading numbers 73.21 100, 73.21 200 and 73.21 900 and substituting the following: 73.21 110, 73.21 210, 73.21 300 and 73.21 910.

**Weedkiller.** Customs Duties (Amendment) (No. 12) Order 1973 amends the schedule by deleting heading number 38.11 310 and substituting the following: 38.11 312 and 38.11 319.

**Note:** The schedule lists goods on which duties are payable when imported into Penang. **EDB ext. 4694/68/401**

**CUSTOMS DUTIES—METAL STRUCTURES, WEEDKILLER:** The Malaysian *Government Gazette* has published the following amendments to the Customs Duties Order 1968:

**Metal structures, etc.** The Customs Duties (Amendment) (No. 20) Order 1973 amends the First Schedule to the order by deleting heading numbers 73.21 100, 73.21 200 and 73.21 900 and all the particulars that follow and substituting the following:

| Heading no. | Description | Unit of quantity | Federation common tariff |
|---|---|---|---|
| 73.21 | Structures and parts of structures (for example hangers and other buildings, bridges and bridge-sections, lock-gates, towers, lattice masts, roofs, roofing frame-works, door and window frames, shutters, balustrades, pillars and columns), of iron or steel: plates, strip, rods, angles, shapes, sections, tubes and the like, prepared for use in structures, of iron or steel: | | |
| 110 | of corrugated sheets, plates, hoop and strip, whether or not plated, coated or clad of a thickness of 1.5 mm or more but not exceeding 4.5 mm | Ton | 30% |
| | Other: | | |
| 210 | Door and window frames, casements | Ton | 15% |
| 300 | Guardrails | Ton | 30% |
| 910 | other | Ton | 15% |

**Weedkiller.** Customs Duties (Amendment) (No. 21) Order 1973 amends the First Schedule by deleting heading number 38.11 310 and all the particulars that follow and substituting the following:

| Heading no. | Description | Unit of quantity | Federation common tariff |
|---|---|---|---|
| 38.11 | Disinfectants, insecticides, fungicides, weed-killers, anti-sprouting products, rat poisons and similar products, put up in forms or packings for sale by retail or as preparations or as articles (for example, sulphur treated bands, wicks and candles, fly-papers): | | |
| | Weed-killers and anti-sprouting products: liquid: | | |
| 312 | containing monosodium acid methane arsenate, other salts and derivatives of methylarsonis acid | Gallon | $7.20 |
| 319 | other | Gallon | $3.00 |

These orders apply throughout the Federation. **EDB ext. 469/468/401**

**CUSTOMS DUTY EXEMPTIONS—STEEL BAR AND ROD:** The Malaysian *Government Gazette* has published the Customs Duties (Exemption) (Mild Steel Round Bars and Wire Rods) Order 1973. All goods under heading numbers 73.10.100, 73.10 910, 73.10 920, 73.10 990, 73.14 130, 73.14 140, 73.15 410, 73.15 420, 73.15 510, 73.15 520, and those having cross-sectional dimensions greater than 6.5 millimetres under heading numbers 73.15 910 and 73.15 920, are exempted from payment of import duty. This order applies throughout the Federation. The Customs Duties (Exemption) (Bar and Rod) Order 1973 has been revoked. **EDB ext. 469/468/401**

## Australia

**RESULTS OF TARIFF BOARD INQUIRIES:** As a result of Australian Tariff Board inquiries, changes have been made, or are proposed, in the customs tariff affecting the rates of duty on the following goods:

Colour television sets.

Sound recorders and reproducers.

Electronic and electrical equipment.

Full details will be published as soon as possible; in the meantime brief details only are available. **EDB ext. 468/469/401**

**REVOCATION OF DUMPING DUTY ON CONTINUOUS FILAMENT POLYAMIDE (NYLON) RAW YARN:** The Department of Trade and Industry has been notified by the British High Commission in Canberra that the dumping duty on continuous filament polyamide (nylon) raw yarn (tariff item 51.01.900) was discontinued on November 1, 1973. Ref. CRE 23536/4 **CRE ext. 5318**

## United States

**PESTICIDES:** The US Environmental Protection Agency has published regulations requiring the registration of pesticide-producing establishments, labelling and the submission of pesticides reports. Applications for registration must be submitted by December 24, 1974. (FR 6.11.73) **CRE ext. 5397**

## St. Lucia

**CONSUMPTION TAX—MOTOR SPIRITS:** The St. Lucia authorities announced in notice No. 32 of October 6, 1973 an amendment to notice No. 27 (see *Trade and Industry*, November 8, 1973, page 299). The rate of tax on BTN 27.10.30 (other motor spirits) should read 0.03c per liquid gallon. **EDB ext. 7312/474/476**

*Commodore Ernesto Ogbinar, Vice-Commander of the Philippine Navy and Commandant of the Philippine Coastguard, looks at turntable mechanisms for high-density lighting beacons. They are part of a £1 million order for lighthouse equipment, and other navigational aids, being produced for the Philippines by Stone-Platt Industries Ltd., Crawley, Sussex. With the Commodore are Mr. R. A. Scott, director of marketing, Electrical Division, Stone-Platt Industries (left,) and Mr. K. C. Sutton-Jones, director, Stone-Chance Navigation Aids (right).*

## Montserrat

**IMPORT RESTRICTION—HEXACHLOROPHENE:** The Montserrat authorities announced in notice No. 19 of September 7, 1973, that the importation into Montserrat of hexachlorophene or of any medicinal or other product or preparation containing hexachlorophene in a concentration of 0·1 per cent or over is prohibited.

**EDB ext. 7312/474/476**

## Ecuador

**MINIMUM VALUE ON GRAPES:** Supreme Decree 394 of the Ecuadorean Ministry of Finance has established a minimum value on grapes. Duty will be based on the valuation or on the invoice value of the goods, whichever is higher.

| Tariff no | Description | Unit | Value US $ fob |
|---|---|---|---|
| 08.04.01.00 | Grapes | Box of 10 kilos | 4.00 |

**EDB ext. 474/476/7312**

## Chile

**EXCHANGE RATES:** The recently announced changes in exchange rates by the Chilean Central Bank were altered on November 3, 1973, as follows:

The 'Bank' rate is now 285 Escudos per US dollar.

The 'Brokers' rate is now 800 Escudos per US dollar.

A Chilean Central Bank circular (no. 1993) has been issued listing types of invisible payments and receipts (with code numbers) and showing the official exchange market to which each type of operation is subject. The circular consequently deals in greater detail with the conversion rates for outgoing and incoming foreign exchange related to or deriving from invisible operations than as laid down in circular no. 1972.

The 'Brokers' rate (only) continues to be surcharged by approximately 56 per cent (including 53.15 per cent purchase tax) in the case of outgoings, ie purchases of foreign currency.

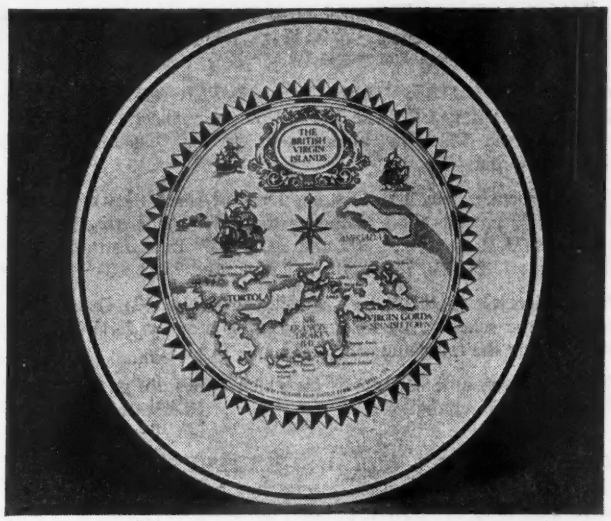
Central Bank circular 1999 (which amends circular 1993) transfers from the 'Bank' to the 'Brokers' exchange rate the conversion of foreign currency outgoings and receipts in payment of international communications services.

Circular 1998 authorises the local commercial banks to undertake some exchange transactions not included in circular 1972 (see *Trade and Industry*, October 25, 1973).

Copies, in Spanish, of circulars 1993, 1998, 1999 and 2001 are available upon request. **CRE ext. 5289**

**CURRENCY REGULATIONS AFFECTING VISITORS:** The Chilean Central Bank has issued circular 2001 which annuls circular 1975 (see *Trade and Industry*, November 8, 1973). There are now no restrictions on foreign (or local) currencies carried by non-resident tourists entering or leaving Chile. Currency conversions at other than the officially-approved banks and hotels, etc. are still banned.

**CRE ext. 5289**




*A 1775 map of the Virgin Islands is the decorative subject for a special edition bicentenary plate which has been designed by Wedgwood for its Caribbean customer, Island Services of Tortola, in the British Virgin Islands. The map is printed in dark blue on a slightly yellow glaze background giving the suggestion of parchment. First deliveries of the 10 in. plate are expected to be made to the customer in December.*

# Export publicity for industry

**Publicity for British exporters can often be obtained through use of the facilities of the Central Office of Information, who are concerned with collecting from industry items suitable for dissemination overseas by way of Government information services. The COI are interested in news items, feature article material, photographs, tape recordings for radio, films for television and other screening. Contact should be made with the nearest Regional Office covering your area.**

NORTHERN: Mr. H. G. Roberts, Wellbar House, Gallowgate, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 4TB (Tel: 27575—Telex 53277).

EAST & WEST RIDINGS: Mr. D. de M. Guilfoyle, OBE, City House, Leeds, LS1 4JG (Tel: 38232—Telex EconPlan 55472—message to be prefixed for COI).

NORTH MIDLAND: Mr. T. Cooban, Cranbrook House, Cranbrook Street, Nottingham, NG1 1EW (Tel: 46121—Telex 37572).

EASTERN: Mr. A. A. McLoughlin, Block D, Government Buildings, Brooklands Avenue, Cambridge, CB2 2DF (Tel: 58911—Telex 81187).

LONDON & SOUTH EASTERN: Mr. R. Dean, OBE, St. Christopher House Annexe, Sumner Street, London, S.E.1 (01-928 2371—Telex 915444).

SOUTHERN: Mr. A. S. Poole, Market Place House, Reading RG1 2EH (Tel: 581261—Telex 84816).

SOUTH WESTERN: Mr. W. J. D. Irving, MVO, The Pithay, Bristol, BS1 2NF (Tel: 291071—Telex 44203).

MIDLAND: Mr. D. C. Boyd, Five Ways House, Islington Row, Birmingham B15 1SH (021-643 8191—Telex 33376).

NORTH WESTERN: Mr. H. V. Tillotson, MVO, 22nd floor, Sunley Building, Piccadilly Plaza, Manchester, M1 4BD (061-832 9111—Telex 667830).

SCOTTISH OFFICE: Mr. C. MacGregor, MBE, Scottish Information Office, St. Andrew's House, Edinburgh, EH1 3DQ (031-556 8501) District Office: 314 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow, C2 (041-221 5670—Telex 77583).

ULSTER OFFICE: Mr. K. McDowall, Northern Ireland Information Service, Stormont Castle, Belfast, BT4 3ST (Tel: 63011).

WELSH OFFICE: Mr. Brian Evans, Director, Welsh Office Information Division, 42 Park Place, Cardiff, CF1 3PY (Tel: 28066—Telex 49327).

# United Kingdom import duties on January 1, 1974

Two Orders made under the Import Duties Act 1958 were laid before the House of Commons on November 22 establishing the main protective import duty rates effective from January 1, 1974.

Further Statutory Instruments establishing other rates of duty (eg in respect of Revenue Duties and preferential rates applicable to goods from certain sources) will be made before the end of the year as will Regulations making some necessary changes in the origin requirements to qualify for preferential tariff treatment.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, Minister for Trade and Consumer Affairs, made the following statement on the UK changes and the important parallel reductions of duty by the rest of the Community on goods from Britain.

'The process of creating the Customs Union of the enlarged European Community is taking an important step further today. We have laid before the House of Commons the first of a number of Statutory Instruments dealing with the import duties from next January.

'This further move towards a single Community market affords major opportunities for our exporters.

'Taking the market of the Six together with the markets of the two other countries—Denmark and Ireland—which joined the Community together with the UK, exporters can now plan on the basis of completely free access to a market of 200 million by 1978.

'At the same time we retain almost in its entirety existing free access to the further 40 million of the EFTA countries. Between them the 15 countries of the EEC and EFTA include seven of our eight largest export markets and some of the fastest growing markets in the world.

### The new arrangements

'Duties on industrial goods traded between the UK and the original Community—Germany, France, Italy, Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg—were reduced by an initial 20 per cent in April of this year. The new move will reduce them by a further 20 per cent—so that they will be down on both sides to 60 per cent of their original level.

'The first 20 per cent cut in duties on horticultural produce will also be made.

'For a few special goods duties will be removed altogether.

'Duty free treatment of Irish and Danish goods now within new Community arrangements, will continue.

'Very broadly, the position for non-Community goods is the following.

'Most goods from EFTA countries remain duty free.

'The special arrangements for imports into the UK of goods of developing countries include retaining present UK duty treatment for the "associable" Commonwealth countries until the conclusion of the negotiations provided under Protocol 22 of the Treaty of Accession and replacing the UK's own GSP scheme (due to expire at the end of the year) by the enlarged Community's scheme.

'For goods not covered by special arrangements, including those of the developed Commonwealth countries we shall be making the first move—generally 40 per cent—towards the Community's Common Customs Tariff.

'The new arrangements when seen as a whole may appear complicated. We are consolidating various changes already made. The tariff nomenclature has been considerably expanded so that we can keep our existing subheadings while moving over to the Common Customs Tariff classification.

'But the main elements, as I have explained above, are clear and straightforward. The DTI and Customs and Excise are ready to give all possible assistance where traders have any doubt about the position of products in which they are interested. In a few cases arrangements are not yet finally settled; traders will, of course, be informed as soon as they are.

### The opportunity for exporters

'Currency changes have made our exports highly competitive. There is great scope for industry to expand its outlets, production and profits. This is particularly the case in many categories of consumer goods where duties applied by the Six on imports from Britain were previously high.

'The profitability of sales will of course depend on the export pricing policy which British firms follow against the background of parity changes. They should take a conscious decision whether or not to maintain or raise their sterling prices, depending on whether they have spare capacity available and on the degree of control which they can exercise over the prices at which their goods are sold in foreign currency; there is no benefit either to the individual company or to the nation if our exports are under-priced.

'Many companies have clearly already begun to exploit the new opportunities. In the first 10 months of this year our exports to Community countries totalled £3,235 million, an increase of 35 per cent over the same period last year. Our exports to Community countries have been increasing faster than our exports to the rest of the world and faster than the expansion of world trade.

(*continued on next page*)

EUROTARIFF

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## UK IMPORT DUTIES ON JANUARY 1, 1974
*continued*

'All companies—those already trading in Europe and those not doing so—should consider the scope for new profitable sales now and rewarding investment for the future.'

### Notes

1. The two Orders laid before Parliament on November 22 are:
   (a) The Import Duties (General) (No. 8) Order 1973 (SI 1973 No. 1845) establishes the rates of protective import duty for goods from all sources in accordance with the transitional tariff arrangements in the Act of Accession to the European Communities.
   (b) The Import Duties (Temporary Reductions and Exemptions) Order 1973 (SI 1973 No. 1844) suspends totally or partially the import duty on goods subject to suspension of duty in the Common Customs Tariff of the European Communities (CCT).
2. For practical reasons, particularly because the preferences to be accorded to goods from certain countries, eg under Community trade agreements, were not settled when the General Order was prepared, the general principle has been followed of establishing in the General Order first the full rates of duty to such goods; preferential rates, eg for EFTA countries, are provided for in it as far as possible but others will be established in further Orders to be laid before the House in due course (see Note 5).
3. The main effects of the General Order are:
   (a) to make the second step towards the Customs Union of the Nine by providing for a further 20 per cent reduction in duties on goods (the first 20 per cent reduction on horticultural products) from other Member States;
   (b) to maintain the existing duty-free entry for goods of Denmark, Ireland, 'associable' Commonwealth countries and most of the goods which were free of duty under EFTA;
   (c) to reduce the duties on goods from certain associates of the original Community (eg the Yaoundé countries) where the UK full rates are being reduced or to keep them at the present level where UK full rates are going up;
   (d) to introduce the first move towards the Common Customs Tariff for imports from other countries, ie to reduce the gap between present UK rates and the CCT by 40 per cent (20 per cent for horticulture).
4. The General Order takes account of indefinite CCT duty suspensions. The Reductions and Exemptions Order adjusts the rates established in the General Order to take account of short-term CCT duty suspensions. It also waives duty on goods used in shipbuilding.
5. As stated in Note 2, separate Orders will deal with particular preferences. Those reducing duties in favour of Cyprus and Egypt will probably be laid very shortly. Other agreements under which the original Member States of the European Communities grant preferential tariff treatment to certain Mediterranean countries have been adapted to take account of the enlarged Community but the full procedures have still to be completed, whilst others are still being negotiated. Orders reducing duties in accordance with these arrangements will be laid as soon as possible.
6. Neither of these Orders deals with Revenue Duties (mainly on hydrocarbon oils, tobacco and alcoholic drinks). Changes in the protective margins in these duties will be implemented in separate Orders (by Customs and Excise).
7. The United Kingdom Generalised Scheme of Preferences (GSP) will expire on December 31. Preferential access to the UK market for the products of developing countries will, however, continue to be available from January 1 under a unified Scheme of the enlarged Community. This will be largely implemented by directly applicable Community instruments, not under UK legislation. The full new arrangements have not yet been completed by the Community but an announcement will be made by the DTI about the Scheme as soon as possible and in due course HM Customs will publish the duty rates, etc.
8. Overall, there is likely to be little measurable effect on UK prices. Many duty rates stay exactly as they were. Duties on all products from the original Community will, of course, go down if they are not already at zero (except for beef and veal, the second reduction on which is due in April). For some products the duty will rise on imports from some sources while remaining the same or falling on those from other sources. Importers of some products will have more than one import duty regime to choose from, eg under Commonwealth Preference or GSP. The Government's estimate that the overall effect of EEC entry on retail food prices will be 2 per cent a year over the transitional period takes into account the January 1, 1974 changes in duties.
9. Similarly, immediate effects on balance of payments are also expected to be marginal. Over the transitional period as a whole there will naturally be changes in the patterns of trade; but any effects due to the January 1 tariff changes will not be separately identifiable. In both respects reductions in duty being made by the rest of the Community are naturally relevant.
10. Detailed information about rates of import duty can be obtained from DTI and HM Customs. Customs have already issued a Public Notice (No. 773) outlining the tariff changes and other Notices dealing with individual aspects of the changes. All can be obtained free of charge from the office of any Collector of Customs and Excise or from HM Customs and Excise, King's Beam House, Mark Lane, London EC3R 7HE. The revised 'HM Customs and Excise Tariff and Overseas Trade Classification' will be distributed to subscribers early in December.
11. A comprehensive article on the UK Tariff at January 1, 1974, which will also indicate sources of information about particular aspects, eg origin rules, will be published in *Trade and Industry* shortly.
12. Copies of the two present Orders SI 1844 and SI 1845 can be purchased from HMSO, prices 10½p and £4.15.

# Import duty relief for certain iron or steel products: proposals

THE Department of Trade and Industry is considering making an application for Community action to enable the United Kingdom to import certain types of steel duty free. If any of the users of the types of steel which are currently exempt from duty (see below) in the United Kingdom consider that they will be unable to obtain a substantial proportion of their total requirements from United Kingdom or Community sources during 1974 they should provide details in writing of the type of steel concerned, their total requirements, and the quantities they expect to be required from third countries to the Department of Trade and Industry, Tariff Division, Kingsgate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SJ (tel. 01-222 7877 ext. 3576). Replies, if necessary by telex (No. 27366), should be received in Tariff Division no later than December 5, 1973.

| Tariff heading | Description |
|---|---|
| 73.07 | Blooms, billets, slabs and sheet bars of iron or steel, rolled but not forged |
| 73.08 | Iron or steel coils for re-rolling |
| 73.09 | Universal plates of iron or steel |
| 73.10 | Bars and rods of iron or steel, not further worked than hot-rolled or extruded, in straight lengths and having a rectangular cross-section of which the width is not less than 10 millimetres nor more than 210 millimetres and the thickness is not less than 6 millimetres |
| | Bars and rods of iron or steel, not further worked than hot-rolled or extruded, in straight lengths or in coils, of circular, square or hexagonal cross-section, or ribbed and of which the greatest cross-sectional dimension does not exceed 156 millimetres; in the case of square cross-section the corners may be either square or rounded |
| | Wire rod (ECSC), of iron or steel and of round section |
| 73.11 | Angles, shapes and sections of iron or steel, hot-rolled or extruded, not drilled, punched or otherwise fabricated or clad, in the case of IUH and Z Sections the distance between the outer surfaces of the two parallel planes is to be not less than 70 millimetres, in the case of angles the outer length of the leg or of the longest leg is to be not less than 70 millimetres and in all other cases the greatest dimension of the cross-section is to be not less than 70 millimetres |
| | Sheet piling of iron or steel, whether or not drilled, punched or made from assembled elements |

| Tariff heading | Description |
|---|---|
| 73.12 | Iron or steel strip in coils, completely clad on both sides with alloy steel containing not less than 17 per cent by weight of chromium and not less than 7 per cent by weight of nickel, the cladding layers each being less than 25 per cent of the total thickness, of a width of not less than 200 millimetres nor more than 460 millimetres, and of a total thickness of not less than 2.5 millimetres nor more than 6 millimetres |
| | Strip of iron or steel, in coil form, coated with tin, whether or not lacquered, of a width of not less than 140 millimetres, and not more than 155 millimetres, and of a thickness of not less than 0.20 millimetre and not more than 0.5 millimetre |
| | Strip of iron or steel, coated with tin, of a width not less than 304 millimetres and not more than 500 millimetres, of a thickness of not less than 0.12 millimetre and not more than 0.5 millimetre, and of a length of not more than 1016 millimetres |
| | Strip of iron or steel, in coil form, coated with tin, of a width of not less than 140 millimetres, and not more than 500 millimetres, and of a thickness of not less than 0.12 millimetre and not more than 0.5 millimetre |
| 73.13 | Sheets and plates of iron or steel, cold-rolled but not coated or otherwise worked |
| | Sheets and plates of iron or steel, hot-rolled but not coated or otherwise worked |
| | Sheets of iron or steel, coated with tin, of a width exceeding 500 millimetres but not more than 986 millimetres, of a thickness of not less than 0.12 millimetre and not more than 0.5 millimetre, and of a length of not more than 1016 millimetres |
| | Sheets of iron or steel, in coil form, coated with tin, of a width exceeding 500 millimetres but not more than 966 millimetres, and of a thickness of not less than 0.12 millimetre and not more than 0.5 millimetre |
| 73.14 | Iron-nickel alloy wire, copper clad and nickel plated, having an overall diameter of not less than 200 micrometres and not more than 600 micrometres, the nickel plating being not less than 2 micrometres and not more than 15 micrometres in thickness; the whole containing not less than 18 per cent by weight of copper, not less than 25 per cent by weight of nickel and not less than 40 per cent by weight of iron, and having, when measured on an 0.20 metre length, a percentage elongation not less than 16 and not more than 25, and a tensile strength not less than 430 newtons per square millimetre and not more than 590 newtons per square millimetre, the rate of straining being 50 millimetres per minute |
| | Iron or steel wire of circular cross-section and of which the diameter is not less than 1.8 millimetres and not more than 4 millimetres; containing not less than 0.11 per cent and not more than 0.22 per cent by weight of carbon, not less than 0.60 per cent and not more than 0.90 per cent by weight of manganese, not more than 0.04 per cent by weight of phosphorus, not less than 0.10 per cent by weight of silicon and not more than 0.05 per cent by weight of sulphur; having a tensile strength not greater than 590 newtons per square millimetre |
| | Nickel plated iron or steel wire, the wire having a diameter of not less than 0.005 in. nor more than 0.250 in. and the nickel plating being not less than 0.0001 in. and not more than 0.0005 in. |
| 73.15 | Alloy steel bars, containing not less than 0.40 per cent and not more than 0.70 per cent, by weight of nickel, not less than 0.40 per cent and not more than 0.60 per cent by weight of chromium, not less than 0.20 per cent, and not more than 0.30 per cent by weight of molybdenum as the major alloying elements, being not less than 76 millimetres and not more than 215 millimetres in diameter and not less than 5 metres and not more than 8 metres in length |
| | Alloy steel bars, containing not less than 0.90 per cent and not more than 1.20 per cent by weight of nickel, and not less than 0.30 per cent and not not more than 0.60 per cent by weight of chromium, not less than 0.20 per cent and not more than 0.30 per cent by weight of molybdenum as the major alloying elements, being not less than 76 millimetres and not more than 215 millimetres in diameter and not less than 5 metres and not more than 8 metres in length |
| | Alloy steel bars, containing not less than 0.90 per cent and not more than 1.20 per cent by weight of carbon, and not less than 1.30 per cent and not more than 1.60 per cent by weight of chromium as the major alloying elements, being not less than 76 millimetres and not more than 215 millimetres in diameter and not less than 5 metres and not more than 8 metres in length |
| | Alloy steel billets, containing not less than 0.50 per cent nor more than 0.60 per cent by weight of carbon, not less than 0.70 per cent, nor more than 1.00 per cent by weight of manganese and not less than 1.50 per cent nor more than 2.00 per cent by weight of silicon as the alloying elements; having a cross-section of which neither width nor thickness is less than 55 millimetres nor more than 80 millimetres |
| | Alloy steel coils for re-rolling, which contain not less than 14 per cent nor more than 18 per cent by weight of chromium as the major alloying element, and not more than 0.5 per cent by weight of nickel, and having a width exceeding 500 millimetres but not more than 1,372 millimetres, and a thickness of not less than 3 millimetres nor more than 6 millimetres |
| | Alloy steel coils for re-rolling, containing not less than 16.0 per cent nor more than 26.0 per cent by weight of chromium, and not less than 6.0 per cent nor more than 22.0 per cent by weight of nickel as the major alloying elements, and having a width exceeding 500 millimetres but not more than 1,372 millimetres, and a thickness of not less than 2.5 millimetres nor more than 6 millimetres |
| | Alloy steel wire having a diameter of not less than 2.514 millimetres and not more than 2.590 millimetres, containing not less than 11.0 per cent and not more than 14.0 per cent chromium by weight, as the major alloying element, with not less than 0.10 per cent and not more than 0.40 per cent sulphur by weight, not more than 1.0 per cent silicon by weight, not more than 1.25 per cent manganese by weight and not more than 0.15 per cent carbon by weight, the tensile strength being not less than 75.6 and not more than 86.625 kilogrammes per square millimetre and the yield strength being not less than 44.1 kilogrammes per square millimetre |
| | Bars and rods of alloy steel, not further worked than hot-rolled or extruded and in coils, having a circular, square or hexagonal cross-section of which no cross-sectional dimension exceeds 46 millimetres and containing either (a) not less than 0.10 per cent lead; or (b) not less than 0.10 per cent sulphur as the major alloying elements other than carbon |
| | Bars and rods of alloy steel, not further worked than hot-rolled or extruded and in straight lengths, having a circular, square or hexagonal cross-section of which no cross-sectional dimension exceeds 156 millimetres and containing either (a) not less than 0.10 per cent lead; or (b) not less than 0.10 per cent sulphur as the major alloying elements other than carbon |

| Tariff heading | Description |
|---|---|
| 73.15 *cont.* | Bars and rods of high carbon steel, in coils, not further worked than hot-rolled, of circular cross-section and having a diameter of not less than 13 millimetres and not more than 28.5 millimetres |
| | Cold-rolled non-oriented electrical steel in sheets or coils, whether or not coated, of a width exceeding 500 millimetres and being either: |
| | (a) of a thickness of 0.50 millimetre with guaranteed maximum watts loss per kilogramme at 50 Hz and flux density of 1.0 Tesla of 1.45 watts per kilogramme, or |
| | (b) of a thickness of 0.35 millimetre with guaranteed maximum watts loss per kilogramme at 50 Hz and flux density of 1.0 Tesla of 1.25 watts per kilogramme |
| | Cold-rolled steel strip, with dressed edges, in coils, the strip being not less than 0.002 in. nor more than 0.007 in. in thickness and not less than $\frac{1}{2}$ in. nor more than 4 in. in width, containing not less than 16 per cent by weight nor more than 18 per cent by weight of chromium and not less than 6 per cent by weight nor more than 8 per cent by weight of nickel and being of a tensile strength of not less than 115 tons per square inch. |
| | Cold-rolled steel strip, with dressed edges, in coils, the strip being not less than 0.002 in. nor more than 0.040 in. in thickness and not less than $\frac{1}{4}$ in. nor more than 4 in. in width, containing not less than 16 per cent by weight nor more than 18 per cent by weight of chromium and not less than 6 per cent by weight nor more than 8 per cent by weight of nickel, and being of a tensile strength of not less than 120 tons per square inch. |
| | Heat resisting wire, not plated, coated or covered, of metal alloy containing by weight the following: |

| | Not less than (per cent) | Not more than (per cent) |
|---|---|---|
| Chromium | 19.0 | 26.0 |
| Aluminium | 4.0 | 5.5 |
| Manganese | 0.10 | 0.50 |
| Iron | Balance | Balance |

| | |
|---|---|
| | and not more than a total of 2 per cent by weight of substances other than chromium, aluminium and manganese |
| | Hot rolled alloy steel strip in coils, containing not less than 14 per cent by weight nor more than 18 per cent by weight of chromium as the major alloying element, and not more than 0.5 per cent by weight of nickel, of a width of not less than 400 millimetres nor more than 500 millimetres and of a thickness of not less than 3 millimetres nor more than 6 millimetres |
| | Hot rolled alloy steel strip in coils, containing not less than 16.0 per cent nor more than 26.0 per cent by weight of chromium and not less than 6.0 per cent nor more than 22.0 per cent by weight of nickel as the major alloying elements, and not less than 0.5 per cent, nor more than 2.0 per cent by weight of manganese; of a width of not less than 400 millimetres nor more than 500 millimetres and of a thickness of not less than 3 millimetres nor more than 6 millimetres |
| | Steel sheets, rectangular or in coils, being steel containing not less than 2.0 per cent nor more than 3.5 per cent by weight of silicon as the major alloying element; with a manganese content exceeding 0.1 per cent and an aluminium content exceeding 0.01 per cent; whether or not coated and of a width not exceeding 1,250 millimetres and a thickness not exceeding 1.6 millimetres |
| | Wire rod (ECSC), of high carbon steel and of round section |
| 73.18 | Longitudinally welded steel tubes in lengths of not less than 6 metres and not more than 8 metres having an internal diameter of not less than 38 millimetres and not more than 40 millimetres; having an outside diameter of not less than 48 millimetres and not more than 50 millimetres; with a wall thickness of not less than 3 millimetres and not more than 5 millimetres; containing not more than 0.06 per cent sulphur and not more than 0.06 per cent phosphorous; having a tensile strength of not less than 34 Kgf/mm² and not more than 48 Kgf/mm² and a minimum yield stress of 21.3 Kgf/mm² |
| 73.19 | Hot rolled seamless circular steel tubes of an outside diameter of not less than 49.5 centimetres and not more than 62.25 centimetres, and of a wall thickness of not less than 8.3 millimetres and not more than 17.9 millimetres |
| 73.23 | Tinplate containers, not being circular or rectangular consisting of a can lipped for sealing, plain or printed externally and lacquered internally, with internal dimensions of not less than 120 millimetres nor more than 168 millimetres in length, not less than 85 millimetres nor more than 120 millimetres at the widest point and not less than 45 millimetres nor more than 70 millimetres in depth, of a minimum capacity of 445 cubic centimetres and a maximum capacity of 940 cubic centimetres scored for opening with opening key attached to base, and related sealing lids |
| 73.40 | Sintered alloy steel fibre in the form of flat rectangular porous sheets, reinforced on one or both sides with alloy steel wire mesh, of an overall thickness of not less than 0.35 millimetre nor more than 1.15 millimetres, and of such length and width that the area of one side of a sheet is not less than 450 square centimetres nor more than 11,620 square centimetres |

## Name and address with cable

**British firms cabling an overseas organisation for the first time should ensure that they include their name and full postal address. There is no comprehensive directory of cable addresses, and commercial departments in British embassies are often unable to help local firms who ask them to trace British firms from their cable address.**

# New EC legislation

**The legislation listed below has been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* as indicated against each item. the *Official Journal* is now published in English and copies should be obtained from HMSO. Information about the items listed, in so far as exports are concerned, is available from Department of Trade and Industry, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel. 01-248 5757 ext. 7174/482 408). Other information may be obtained from the reference point given at the end of the item.**

**COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY:** The texts of the following Regulations and Decision which affect the various agricultural sectors in the EEC have been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*.

**Milk and milk products.** Regulation (EEC) 3061/73 amending Regulation (EEC) 756/70 on granting aid for skimmed milk processed into casein and caseinates. (*Official Journal*, L312, November 13, 1973).

Regulation (EEC) 3084/73 amending in particular Regulation (EEC) 2500/73 on the advance fixing of refunds and the period of validity of export certificates for milk and milk products. (*Official Journal* L314, November 15, 1973).

Corrigendum to Regulation (EEC) 982/73, published in *Official Journal* L97, April 12, 1973, amending Regulation (EEC) 685/69 on detailed rules of application for intervention on the market in butter and cream. (*Official Journal* L309, November 9, 1973).

**Cereals.** Decision 73/338/EEC derogating from the safeguard measures applicable to exports of durum wheat adopted by Decision 73/236/EEC (*Official Journal* L312, November 13, 1973).

**Seeds.** Regulation (EEC) 3083/73 on the communication of the information necessary for implementing Regulation (EEC) 2358/71 on the common organisation of the market in seeds. (*Official Journal* L314, November 15, 1973).

**Processed agricultural products.** Regulation (EEC) 3085/73 concerning the application with retrospective effect of Regulations (EEC) 1858/73 and 2210/73, adjusting certain compensatory amounts and variable components applicable during the second and third quarters respectively of 1973 on importation of goods covered by Regulation (EEC) 1059/69. (*Official Journal* L314, November 15, 1973).

**Oils, fats and oilseeds.** Regulation (EEC) 3104/73 amending Regulations (EEC) 2573/73 and 2574/73 on exports of olive oil. (*Official Journal* L315, November 16, 1973).

**TARIFF QUOTA—Unwrought magnesium:** The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L313, November 14, 1973, contains the text of Regulation (EEC) 3065/73, increasing the amount of the Community tariff quota for unwrought magnesium falling within heading 77.01 A of the Common Customs Tariff.

**Eels.** The *Official Journal of the European Communities* C92, October 31, 1973, contains the draft text of a Proposal for a Regulation increasing the Community tariff quota for certain eels falling within subheading No ex 03.01 A II of the Common Customs Tariff. It should be noted that the text of the Regulation when finally approved may differ from the draft text referred to above.

**SUSPENSION OF CUSTOMS DUTIES:** The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L313, November 14, 1973, contains the text of Regulation (EEC) 3072/73 authorising the United Kingdom to suspend customs duties on certain products listed in Article 1(2) of Regulation 136/66/EEC on the establishment of a common organisation of the market in oils and fats.

**CUSTOMS REGULATIONS:** The *Official Journal of the European Communities* C92, October 31, 1973 contains the draft text of a proposal for a Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) 1496/68 on the definition of the customs territory of the Community. It should be noted that the text of the Regulation when finally approved, may differ from the draft text referred to above.

The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L315, November 16, 1973, contains the text of Regulation (EEC) 3105/73 amending Regulation (EEC) 2198/69 concerning the periods of grace referred to in Article 10 (2) and (3) of Regulation 803/68 on the valuation of goods for customs purposes.

**COMMERCIAL POLICY—EXPORT QUOTAS:** The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L315, November 16, 1973, contains the text of Regulation (EEC) 3102/73 concerning the enlargement of the Community quantitative export quota for certain waste and scrap of copper and copper alloys.

**Further information:** Department of Trade and Industry, Export Licensing Branch, Sanctuary Buildings, 16-20 Great Smith Street, SW1P 3DB (tel. 01 222-7877 ext. 4234).

**CERTIFICATES OF ORIGIN:** The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L315, November 16, 1973, contains the text of Regulation (EEC) 3103/73 on certificates of origin and applications for such certificates.

**EEC/TURKEY AGREEMENT:** *Trade and Industry*, August 30, 1973 (page 450), contained an article about the enlargement Protocol laying down the terms under which the Association Agreement between the EEC and Turkey becomes applicable to the new Member States.

The text of the Interim Agreement referred to in paragraph 1 of that article, for the implementation of the trade provisions of the enlargement protocol has been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* L277, October 3, 1973 as follows:

Regulation (EEC) 2682/73 on the conclusion of the Interim Agreement between the EEC and Turkey consequent on the Accession of new Member States to the Community.

Interim Agreement between the EEC and Turkey consequent on the Accession of new Member States to the Community.

Subject to all the necessary formalities having been completed the Interim Agreement will enter into force on January 1, 1974.

**Further information:** Inquiries arising from this notice and the earlier article should be addressed to:

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY

1 Commercial Relations and Exports Division 4
1 Victoria Street
London SW1 0ET
Tel. 01-222 7877 ext. 5396 (general inquiries)

2 Overseas Tariff and Regulation Section
Export Data Branch
Export House
50 Ludgate Hill
London EC4 7HU.
Tel. 01-248 5757 ext. 420/475/7100 (import duties, taxes etc on exports to Turkey) ext. 408/482/7174 (import duties, taxes etc on imports from Turkey into EEC other than UK).

3 Tariff Division
Kingsgate House
66-74 Victoria Street
London SW1E 6SJ.
Tel. 01-222 7877 ext. 5544, 5488 (imports into the UK from Turkey) ext. 5713 (origin rules) ext. 3626 (UK tariff import quotas).

HM CUSTOMS AND EXCISE

Kings Beam House
39-41 Mark Lane
London EC3R 7HE.
Tel. 01-626 1515 ext. 2263 (Customs documentation and procedure)

OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION

Middle East, Mediterranean & Caribbean Department
Eland House
Stag Place
London SW1E 5DH.
Tel. 01-834 2377 ext. 137/160 (Turkey and the European Investment Bank).

**HARMONISATION OF LEGISLATION:** The *Official Journal of the European Communities* C90, October 26, 1973, contains the draft texts of proposed Directives as follows:

Proposal for a Directive concerning the harmonisation of legislation in the Member States relating to electrical energy meters.

Proposal for a Directive concerning the harmonisation of legislation in Member States in respect of radio interference caused by sound and vision TV receivers.

Proposal for a Directive on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to cold-water meters.

Proposal for a Directive on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to continuous totalizing weighing machines.

Proposal for a Directive on the approximation of Member States' laws on the interior fittings of motor vehicles (Strength of seats and their anchorages) It should be noted that the texts of the Directives when finally approved, may differ from the draft texts referred to above.

**Further information:** Department of Trade and Industry, Standard Weights and Measures Division, Abell House, John Islip Street, London SW1P 4LN (tel. 01-834 4422 ext. 124).

**COMPETITION POLICY:** The *Official Journal of the European Communities* C92, October 31, 1973, contains the text of a proposal for a Regulation on the control of concentrations between undertakings.

**Further information:** Department of Trade and Industry, Fair Trading 2B, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET (tel. 01-222 7877 ext. 5092).

**RULES OF COMPETITION:** The texts of the EEC Commission Decisions on two agreements submitted to it for clearance in accordance with Regulation 17 have been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* as follows:—

Decision 73/322/EEC relating to proceedings under Article 85 of the EEC Treaty (IV/27.010—Deutsche Philips GmbH) (*Official Journal* L293, October 20, 1973).

Decision 73/323/EEC relating to proceedings under Article 85 of the EEC Treaty (IV/26.825—William Prym-Werke KG and SA Manufacturing Belge d'Aiguilles Beka (PRYM-BEKA)) (*Official Journal* L296, October 24, 1973)

**Further information:** Department of Trade and Industry, Fair Trading 2B, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET (tel. 01-222 7877 ext. 5092).

**UNCTAD GENERALISED PREFERENCES SYSTEMS:** *Trade and Industry*, February 15, 1973 contained a notice about a number of Regulations setting up tariff quotas and opening tariff preferences for certain products originating in developing countries for the period January 1, to December 31, 1973. The texts of the following Regulation and notice reimposing the Common Customs Tariff Duties on certain of these products have been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities.*

| CCT no. | Description of goods | Country of origin | Full rate of duty payable from | Tariff quota or preference set up by Reg. No. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Regulation (EEC) 3062/73 | | | | |
| ex 61.02 | Women's, girls' and infants' outer garments: — of cotton | India | November 16, 1973 | 2629/73 |
| | | (*Official Journal* L312, November 13, 1973) | | |
| Notice | | | | |
| 62.02 | Bed linen, tablelinen, toilet linen and kitchen linen; curtain and other furnishing articles:—In woven fabrics of cotton | India | November 14, 1973 | 2628/73 |
| | | (*Official Journal* C96, November 13, 1973) | | |

**CLASSIFICATION, PACKAGING AND LABELLING OF DANGEROUS SUBSTANCES:** *The Official Journal of the European Communities* C92, October 31, 1973, contains the draft text of a proposal for a Directive amending for the fifth time directive 67/548/CEE on the approximation of the laws, packaging and labelling of dangerous substances. The proposal aligns some of the provisions of Directive 67/548/CEE with the recently adopted Directive 73/173/EEC on the labelling of solvents. It should be noted that the text of the directive, when finally approved, may differ from the draft text referred to above.

**Further information:** Department of Employment, Directorate of Occupational Safety and Health, Baynards House, 1 Chepstow Place, Westbourne Grove, London W2 4TQ (tel. 01-229 3456 ext. 385).

# Services to exporters

**The following DTI offices provide services for UK exporters**

## Headquarters

**Export Services and Promotions Division**
Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London, EC4M 7HU
Tel. 01-248 5757. Telex 886143 DTI EXPORT LDN

## Regional

**Office for Scotland**
314 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow G3 8XF
Tel. 041-248 2855. Telex 77583 DTI GLASGOW

**Inverness District Office**
Caledonia House, 63/67 Academy Street, Inverness, IV1 1LU
Tel. Inverness 30867

**Office for Wales**
Government Buildings, Gabalfa, Cardiff, CF4 4YL
Tel. Cardiff (0222) 62131. Telex 49267 DTI CARDIFF

**Yorkshire and Humberside Regional Office**
City House, New Station Street, Leeds, LS1 4JQ
Tel. Leeds (0532) 38232. Telex 557470 DTI LEEDS

**Northern Regional Office**
Wellbar House, Gallowgate, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1R 4T
Tel. Newcastle upon Tyne (0632) 27575. Telex 53178 DTI NTYNE

**Cumberland and Westmorland District Office**
Town Hall, Cockermouth, Cumberland
Tel. Cockermouth (090-082) 3498/9
Telex 64173 DTI COCKERMOUTH

**North-Western Regional Office**
Sunley Building, Piccadilly Plaza, Manchester, M1 4BA
Tel. 061-236 2171. Telex 667104 DTI MCHR

**West-Midlands Regional Office**
Ladywood House, Stephenson Street, Birmingham B2 4DT
Tel. 021-632 4111. Telex 337021 DTI BHAM

**East-Midlands Regional Office**
Cranbrook House, 47 Cranbrook Street, Nottingham NG1 1ES
Tel. Nottingham (0602) 46121. Telex 37143 DTI NOTTM

**South-Western Regional Office**
The Pithay, Bristol, BS1 2PB
Tel. Bristol (0272) 291071. Telex 44214 DTI BRISTOL

**Northern Ireland Ministry of Commerce**
Chichester House, 64 Chichester Street, Belfast BT1 4JX
Tel. Belfast (0232) 34488. Telex 74578 GOVNI BELFAST

# Government measures on energy supplies in the emergency situation

BECAUSE of a 'triple threat' to Britain's energy supplies—oil, coal, electricity—the Government is instituting measures designed to achieve fuel conservation. Oil deliveries by companies to their customers are being cut and restrictions have been placed on the use of electricity. The Government has also decided to bring to a state of readiness plans to introduce oil rationing and meanwhile calls for voluntary efforts to reduce consumption of all forms of energy. Information on the issuing of motor fuel coupons in preparation for the possible introduction of rationing is given on page 483.

Mr. Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, told a press conference at Department of Trade and Industry headquarters in London on November 19: 'This afternoon in the House of Commons I announced a new measure to deal with the emergency situation (*see Parliament, page* 492). We have decided that from tomorrow all oil deliveries made by the oil companies to their customers—with the exception of public transport—will be cut by 10 per cent. Allocations will be based on consumption in the corresponding month last year. In the case of petrol stations, the figure will be 10 per cent below last year but apportioned on the basis of deliveries in September of this year.'

Mr. Walker, went on: 'Before I discuss the decision in detail I want to put the background situation clearly.

'Apart from the longer term problems of world energy supply we now face an immediate triple threat to our energy needs. Industrial action in the coal and electricity industries has already led to the proclamation of an emergency. In addition, as you know, the oil supply situation is difficult.

'Before taking steps to cut the consumption of electricity—and now oil—it was right to appeal for voluntary economies. The use of energy is not in the hands of Government, it is in the hands of consumers. I repeat and underline that appeal for economy today.

'We are in a situation which requires a total effort by all to conserve energy in all its forms.

'In drawing up our allocation plans we have consulted the CBI and the motoring organisations. We shall continue to look to them and other organisations for advice as the situation develops. And, of course, we are in day-to-day touch with the oil companies.

'Allocations, as I have said, will be based on consumption in the corresponding month of last year. Suppliers will work out the allocations from their records and will notify each consumer what he may expect to receive. I realise that there may have been changes since last year—some consumers' needs will have increased and some may not have been using oil at all a year ago. Any consumer who has doubts about his allocation should get in touch with his supplier in the first instance.

'Arrangements are being made for adjusting initial allocations where this is clearly justified. But I emphasise that it must be justified by some change in circumstance—such as the addition of new capacity. Pleas for exemption from the cuts where there has been no change in circumstances will not be accepted. To give some consumers more would mean giving others less. Each and every one of us must make a contribution to the savings that are needed.

'There are, of course, some essential services and industries that are vital to our well-being or of special importance to the economy. A list of these priority consumers has been drawn up but at this stage their supplies—with the exception of public transport—will be reduced by 10 per cent also. There are few users of oil who, by making an all out effort, cannot save 10 per cent without causing undue hardship or dislocation and that applies to the priority users as to others. However, arrangements are being made to adjust their allocation later if this should prove unavoidable.

'The cuts will apply also to deliveries to garages and I ask them to do their best to share out supplies fairly and to meet the needs of, for example, doctors and nurses and others on whom our well-being depends. It is essential that we all immediately cut out all unnecessary motoring and save petrol by driving economically. The motoring organisations will be publishing detailed advice on this. In particular I ask everyone to observe a self-imposed speed limit of 50 mph as from today. Reducing speed from 70—50 mph on a motorway can cut consumption by 30 per cent. And don't drive at the week-ends except on business or for some other essential journey.

'In a country where good sense and responsible behaviour is still, fortunately, the general rule I have decided not to impose a ban on Sunday motoring. Indeed, motoring organisations reported today that there were far fewer motorists on the roads at the week-end than usual. I believe we can achieve effective economies on a voluntary basis. I do not want to prevent people visiting the sick in hospital or going to church, but if they can walk or go by public transport so much the better.'

Mr. Walker concluded: 'If we achieve a real cut back in consumption by 10 per cent immediately as a result of these decisions then our chances of holding the situation are improved. Already today's move by the oil producers offers a marginal improvement in the overall situation. But initially the fight to conserve energy must rest with individual consumers. The Government is mounting an intensive advertising campaign in the press and on television, on the need for fuel conservation. It is for each and every person, in whatever way, to cut back on demand—and they must do it now!'

## Industrial fuel allocations—applications for adjustment

Arrangements will be made to adjust initial industrial fuel allocations, both for priority and non-priority customers, where this is clearly justified.

In the case of non-priority activities, no exemption to the reduction will be given unless there is some basic change in individual circumstance—such as the addition of new capacity.

For priority consumers—though it is believed they can probably meet the 10 per cent reduction without undue hardship or dislocation—the allocation may be increased where this is unavoidable.

Any consumer who falls within the above criteria should in the first place discuss the problem with his supplier. If, together, they believe an application for a supplementary allocation is absolutely necessary then the supplier should contact the local DTI Regional Office, setting out the case in detail.

DTI Regional Directors will, where the case is accepted, be able to issue a direction to the supplier to increase supplies or bring in another supplier if necessary.

### Industrial oil fuel allocation scheme—priority uses

**Description**

The functioning of Government establishments.
The operations of the armed forces.
The operation of agricultural and horticultural tractors, machinery and equipment used in the production of food.
Grain milling, including the production of feeding-stuffs.
The production of bread, infant rusks or flour confectionery.
The production, processing or bottling of milk or milk products.
The processing of oil seed, edible oil refining, fat melting or the manufacture of margarine, lard, cooking fat or edible oil.
The slaughtering of livestock, including ancillary processing.
The production, treatment or storage of petroleum or petroleum products.
The getting, dressing, manufacture or preparation for sale of solid fuel.
The extraction of coal from opencast workings.
The production and supply of natural or manufactured gas.
The production and supply of electricity.
The operation of emergency generating sets.
The production of iron and steel.
The production of castings, forgings and other basic forms of ferrous and non-ferrous metals.
The smelting and refining of aluminium.
The production of chemical substances derived from petroleum feedstocks.
The manufacture or processing of medical or pharmaceutical supplies and appliances, excluding cosmetics and toilet articles.
The operation of railways, including both the underground and surface railways operated by London Transport.
The bunkering of fishing and coastal vessels, including scheduled ferry services.
Lighthouses, pilotage and marine search and rescue operations.
The operation of airports and supporting services, including safety services, aircraft maintenance facilities, air traffic control centres, air navigation obstruction lighting and communications, radar and navigational facilities located throughout the country.
Telecommunications services (including broadcasting).
The operations of the Post Office, the British Broadcasting Corporation, the Independent Broadcasting Authority or any programme contractor within the meaning of the Independent Broadcasting Authority Act 1973.
The printing of daily, weekly and evening newspapers and all newspapers normally published on Sundays, the primary purpose of which is in each case the dissemination of news.
The collection or disposal of refuse, including toxic waste.
The purposes of cremation.
Hospitals or nursing homes.
Community health services, educational services or social services certified by the Department of Health and Social Security or by local authorities as dependent on oil for space heating and as essential to the well-being of the elderly, the mentally disordered, the chronic sick or the physically handicapped.
The operations of water undertakings.
The operations of sewerage or sewage disposal undertakings.
The operations of drainage authorities.
The operations of river authorities.
The operations of police forces.
The operations of the fire services.

### Bulk motor fuel allocation scheme—priority uses

**Description**

Central Government services.
The operations of the armed forces.
The operations of police forces.
The operations of the fire services.
Hospital and ambulance services.
The distribution of all food, including agricultural and edible horticultural produce.
The distribution of ice for use in the food trades or hospital services.
The following road transport services:

- Stage services licensed as such.
- Express services, excluding tours.
- Works services.
- Airport bus services.
- Vehicles needed by the British Railways Board for carrying lubricating oils.

Household removals.
Transport of goods, equipment and materials for the purpose of or in connection with the carrying on of any of the following activities:

- The operation of agricultural and horticultural tractors, machinery and equipment used in the production of food.
- Grain milling, including the production of feeding-stuffs.
- The production of bread, infant rusks or flour confectionery.
- The production, processing or bottling of milk or milk products.
- The processing of oil seed, edible oil refining, fat melting or the manufacture of margarine, lard, cooking fat or edible oil.

The slaughtering of livestock, including ancillary processing.
The production, treatment or storage of petroleum or petroleum products.
The getting, dressing, manufacture or preparation for sale of solid fuel.
The extraction of coal from opencast workings.
The production and supply of natural or manufactured gas.
The production and supply of electricity.
The production of iron and steel.
The production of castings, forgings and other basic forms of ferrous and non-ferrous metals.
The smelting and refining of alumimiun.
The production of chemical substances derived from petroleum feedstocks.
The operations of railways, including both the underground and surface railways operated by London Transport.
Lighthouses, pilotage and marine search and rescue.
The operation of airports and supporting services, including safety services, aircraft maintenance facilities, air traffic control centres, air navigation obstruction lighting and communications, radar and navigational facilities located throughout the country.
Telecommunication services (including broadcasting).
The operations of the Post Office, the British Broadcasting Corporation, the Independent Broadcasting Authority or any programme contractor within the meaning of the Independent Broadcasting Authority Act 1973.
The printing of daily, weekly and evening newspapers and all newspapers normally published on Sundays, the primary purpose of which is in each case the dissemination of news.
Burial or cremation.
The collection or disposal of refuse, including toxic waste.
The operations of water undertakings.
The operations of sewerage or sewage disposal undertakings.
The operations of drainage authorities.
The operations of river authorities.

# Restrictions on the use of electricity

THE Electricity (Heating) (Restriction) Order 1973 and The Electricity (Advertising, Display, etc.) (Restriction) Order 1973 both came into operation on November 15. In these orders 'electricity' means electricity supplied by an Electricity Board. The Interpretation Act 1889(b) applies to the interpretation of these Orders as it applies to the interpretation of an Act of Parliament. Except under a licence granted by the Secretary of State under these Orders, the consumption of electricity is restricted as specified.

Under paragraph 3(1) of The Electricity (Heating) (Restriction) Order, no person shall consume or permit the consumption of electricity for the purpose of heating—

(*a*) any premises used wholly or mainly—

(i) as an office or showroom;

(ii) as a retail shop, bank or petrol station;

(iii) as a restaurant or catering establishment (whether or not licensed for the sale of intoxicating liquor) or for the sale or consumption of intoxicating liquor;

(iv) as a film, television or photographic studio;

(v) as a library, museum, art gallery, exhibition hall or other public hall;

(vi) places of public worship or religious education have been granted a general licence to use electricity for the purpose of heating provided that this use extends to only six hours in any period of seven days;

(vii) for recreation, entertainment or sport; or

(*b*) any part so used of any premises, not otherwise so used, if the heating for that part is controlled separately from the heating for the other part of the premises.

(2) Nothing in paragraph (1) of this Article shall apply to the consumption of electricity—

(*a*) on any part of any such premises which is used as living accommodation;

(*b*) on any part of any such premises to the extent that such consumption is necessary for the maintenance of the health of any person on those premises who is ill, disabled or infirm;

(*c*) for the purpose of operating any fan, circulating pump or controlling mechanism installed in any central plant used for heating any such premises by means of solid fuel, gas or oil;

(*d*) for the purpose of preventing damage to any central heating plant on any such premises;

(*e*) for the purpose of operating apparatus for heating, cooling or air-conditioning on any such premises to the extent necessary to prevent damage to any apparatus, goods or material on the premises which is sensitive to changes in temperature or humidity;

(*f*) for preserving the health of any livestock on any such premises;

(*g*) on any part of such premises used as a registered pharmacy or used for the purpose of his practice or business by a registered medical practitioner, a registered dentist, a registered pharmacist, a registered optician, a registered veterinary surgeon or a registered veterinary practitioner; or

(*h*) on any part of such premises used for the purpose of dispensing hearing aids by any person registered as a dispenser of hearing aids under the Hearing Aid Council Act 1968(a).

Under paragraph 3(1) of The Electricity (Advertising, Display, etc.) (Restriction) Order, no person shall consume or permit the consumption of electricity for the purpose of—

(*a*) advertising any article, product or service;

(*b*) the display of any article, building or structure or any part thereof; or

(*c*) lighting (whether by means of floodlights or any other form of illumination) any area in the open air for the purpose of recreation, entertainment or sport.

(2) Nothing in paragraph (1) of this Article shall apply to the consumption of electricity for the purpose of—

(*a*) broadcasting any advertisement from an authorised broadcasting station; or

(*b*) projecting any advertisement by means of any film or slide on to a screen in any premises licensed under the Cinematograph Act 1909(c) or the Theatres Act 1968(d); or

(*c*) displaying any article or structure which is a traffic sign within the meaning of Section 54(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1967(e); or

(*d*) displaying any sign indicating the nature of the premises at any of the following:

(i) ambulance stations;

(ii) fire stations;

(iii) first aid stations;

(iv) police stations;

(v) hospitals;

(vi) the premises of a registered dentist;

(vii) the premises of a fully registered medical practitioner;

(viii) the premises of a registered pharmacist;

(ix) the premises of a registered optician;

(x) the premises of a registered veterinary surgeon or registered veterinary practitioner;

(xi) the premises of a registered dispenser of hearing aids; or

(*e*) illuminating any telephone which is intended for public use.

(3) Nothing in paragraph (1) of this Article shall apply to the consumption of electricity at any premises used for the purpose of any railway undertaking.

# Motor Fuel (Restriction of Supplies) Order

AN Order preventing people getting road fuel in cans for the purpose of hoarding came into effect on November 21. The Order will not, however, affect anyone who customarily collects petrol in this way from a regular source for use in business or in non-motor vehicles (including agricultural machinery).

Normal supplies into vehicle fuel tanks or to bulk consumers are exempt, as are those who purchase or make up two-stroke mixture.

The Order also provides for anyone who is faced with special difficulties, such as a new consumer who has not had a regular source of supply in the past. In such cases application should be made to the appropriate Regional Office of the Department of Trade and Industry.

Copies of the Order, the Motor Fuel (Restriction of Supplies) Order 1973, SI 1973 No. 1943 are available from HMSO.

Members of the public are reminded that storage of petrol in private premises involves a serious risk of fire damage which, in some circumstances, may not be covered by household insurance policies.

## MR. WALKER INVITES VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS TO HELP CONSERVE ENERGY

ALTHOUGH the long-term prospects in the oil, coal, gas and nuclear energy fields are excellent, the current uncertainties stemming from the Middle East situation and the miners' ban on overtime made it essential that every effort should be made to conserve our energy supplies, Mr. Peter Walker said on November 22.

Mr. Walker, who was addressing representatives of voluntary organisations at the Department of Trade and Industry, called for their co-operation in achieving these economies at local level throughout the country. He suggested three ways in which they could help:

(i) by advising people on ways in which they can save fuel. Mr. Walker referred to the guide points already issued by the Department and sought the co-operation of the voluntary organisations in passing on this information

(ii) by organising schemes of mutual aid in local community activities, eg by reducing motor car usage through sharing arrangements for shopping, taking children to school etc.

(iii) by identifying local social problems eg cases of hardship, and of particular needs of the aged, and drawing these to the attention of local fuel suppliers. In cases where local suppliers are unable to help, Mr. Walker asked the voluntary organisations to seek the co-operation of the local DTI Regional Office.

The meeting was assured that the Government was anxious that the work of voluntary organisations should not be impaired as a result of the present restraints and undertook to consider ways in which this could be achieved.

The organisations represented at the meeting included: Women's Royal Voluntary Service, British Red Cross Society, St. John's Ambulance Association and Brigade, the National Citizens' Advice Bureau Council, Royal British Legion, the National Union of Townswomen's Guilds, the Council of Social Service for Wales and Monmouthshire, and the National Council for Social Service.

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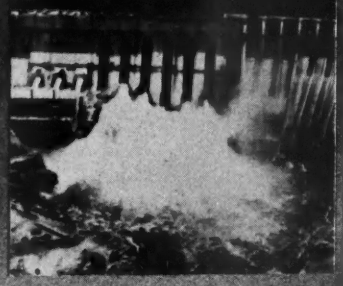

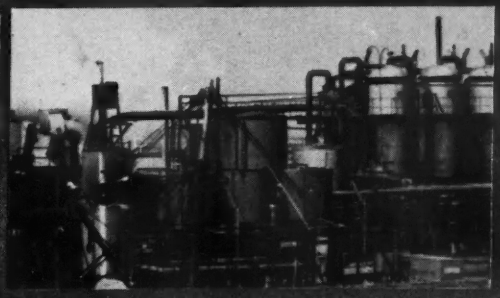

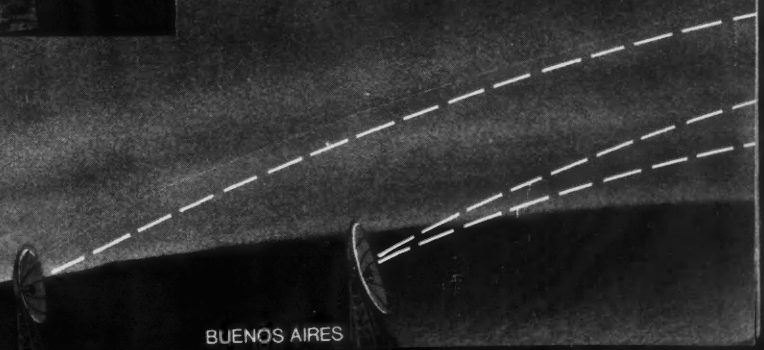

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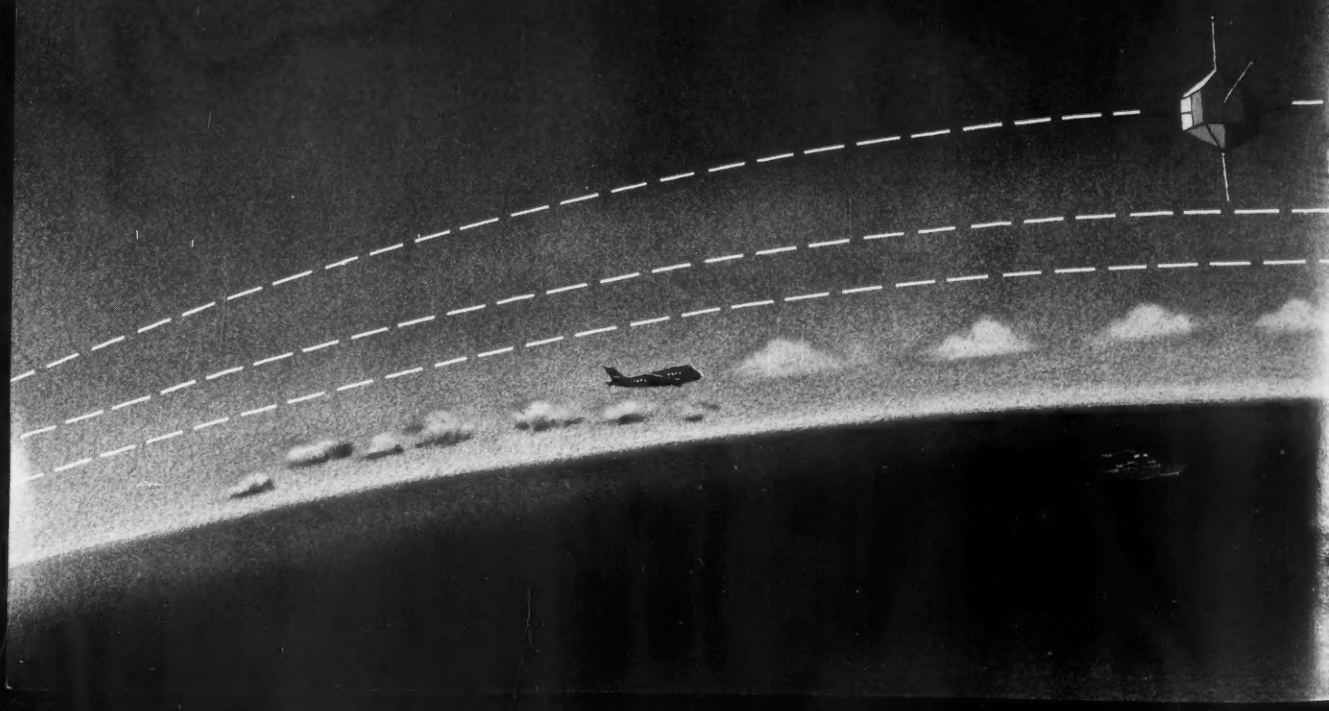

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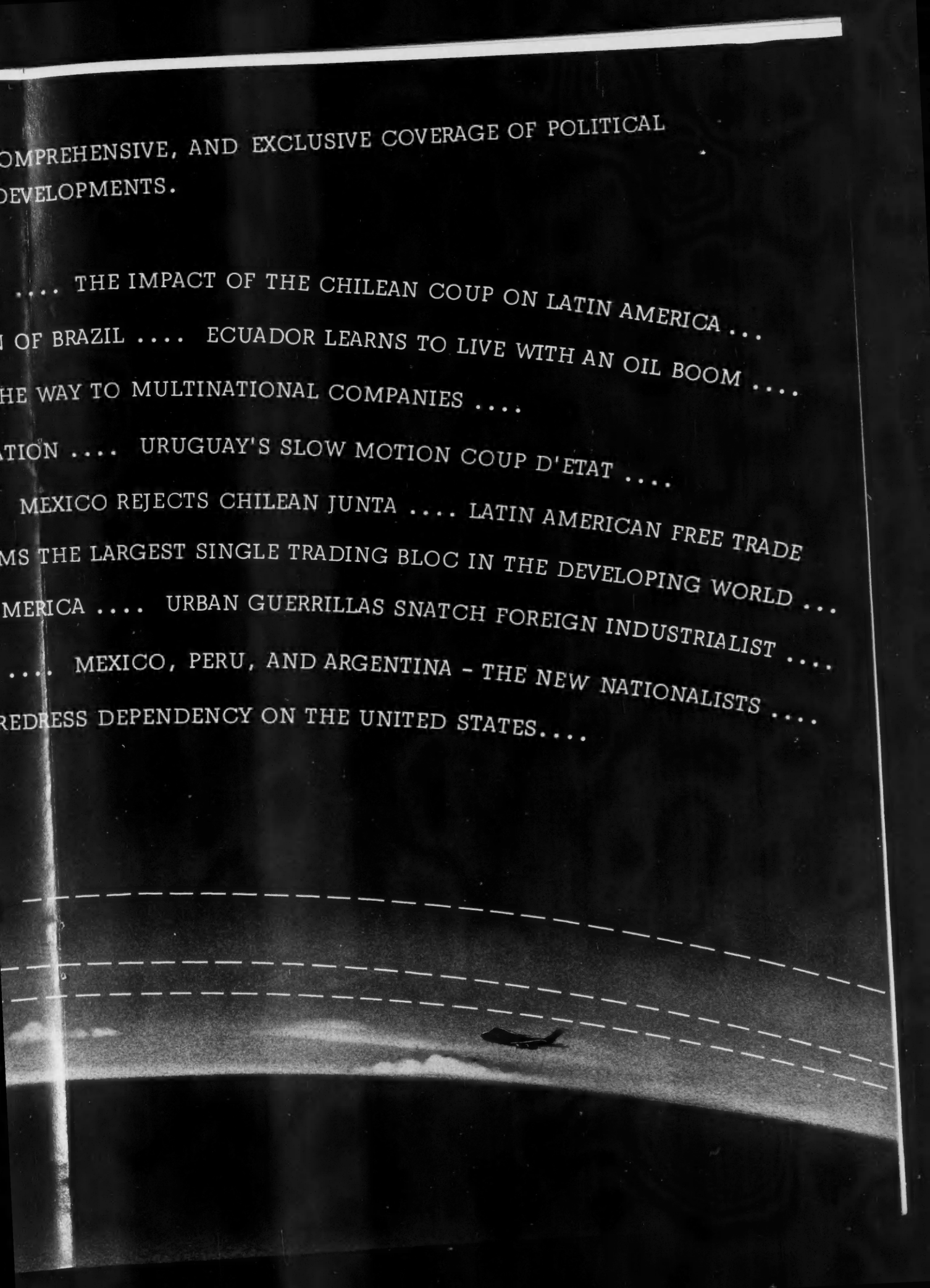

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# Issue of motor fuel coupons

MR. Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, announced in the House of Commons on Monday that, although the Government has made no decision to introduce rationing of motor fuel, coupons will, as a precaution, be issued starting today (November 29).

The system is designed to ensure a fair allocation, with priority for industry and essential services. A basic ration which is intended to cover essential travel—such as from home to work if there is no public transport available—will be provided for all vehicles. There will be an additional allowance for vehicles essential for business and professional use. Only severe hardship will qualify for supplementary allowances.

Separate arrangements for buses and goods vehicles over 30 cwt. are being announced by the Department of the Environment. Otherwise, except for buses, coupons will be available at Post Offices between Thursday, November 29, and Wednesday, December 12.

People are asked to go to Post Offices as follows:

| Surnames commencing with | Date | Surnames commencing with | Date |
|---|---|---|---|
| A, B | November 29 | M | December 6 |
| C | November 30 | N, O, P | December 7 |
| D, E | December 1 | Q, R | December 8 |
| F, G | December 3 | S | December 10 |
| H | December 4 | T, U, V | December 11 |
| I, J, K, L | December 5 | W, X, Y, Z | December 12 |

Applicants should call in person, although they can send a representative: no postal request can be dealt with. In order that the operation can run smoothly it is hoped that people will be able to collect their coupons on the day assigned to them. If this is impossible, they may do so on other days. Coupons will be issued on production of the vehicle log book and current tax disc. There will be no application form for the basic ration. Post Office staff will simply stamp the log book to show the coupons have been issued. Special arrangements can be made with head postmasters for bulk collection by organisations with more than five vehicles.

### The basic ration

The basic ration is intended to provide for essential motoring, such as home to work travel where there is no public transport or other alternative. Motorists are free to use their basic ration for leisure purposes if they wish, but any supplementary allowance granted for travel to work will be discounted by 75 per cent of the basic ration.

The basic ration coupons will be in books according to engine size for cars or unladen weight for goods vehicles.

### Business ration (general)

The business ration will be available for essential business use only. It will not be granted for home to work travel. Applications will need to be made at main Post Offices on the appropriate form. There are separate forms for ordinary business, vital and priority business, agriculture, and certain other special categories.

Applications will be dealt with in a three-week period commencing on December 13. During this period organisations with more than five vehicles should complete the forms and contact their head postmasters. Business ration coupons will be in sheet form.

### Business ration (vital and priority drivers)

Certain categories of people can claim a higher business ration in addition to their basic ration. They include doctors, veterinary surgeons, midwives and home nurses, ministers of religion, full-time welfare and social service officials, and certain others. Disabled people who need their special vehicles for their work can also claim this allowance. Vital and priority drivers can claim their business allowances at all Post Offices on Thursday, November 29.

### Supplementary allowances

If rationing is introduced, supplementary allowances will be granted in cases of severe domestic hardship or according to strict criteria such as the loss of essential services to the community and unacceptably reduced efficiency. Applications would be made to Regional Petroleum Offices on a form obtainable from Post Offices. The addresses of Regional Petroleum Offices will be displayed in all Post Offices in their regions. There will be provision for an appeal on an unsuccessful application.

### Coupons for buses and goods vehicles over 30 cwt.

These will be distributed under a separate basically similar scheme for which the Department of the Environment will be responsible. Heavy goods vehicle users will still get basic rations from Post Offices.

### Foreign registered vehicles

Foreign registered vehicles will be handled by the AA and RAC, if rationing begins.

Vehicles registration number must be entered on all coupons before they are exchanged for fuel and also on the cover of ration books. Coupons are then valid only for that vehicle and must not be detached before use. Months are numbered on the coupons, which also have code letters and figures to show what they are worth. Their value will be announced when rationing is introduced. For all rations the first issue of coupons will cover six months. In the first month coupons for the next two months can also be used. After the first month coupons for the current month, the previous month and the following month may also be used.

If rationing comes, it will be an offence to supply motor fuel unless in business as a supplier; to acquire motor fuel other than from someone in business as a supplier; or to supply or acquire motor fuel other than against the surrender of coupons.

Full-page advertisements were placed in newspapers earlier this week setting out full details of the scheme.


## Economic Trends

A monthly journal for those who want to follow the main trends of the economic situation in the United Kingdom. It brings together the main statistical series of employment, output, consumption, trade and finance, and each issue contains a special feature article on some aspect of the statistics.

Price 63p (*by post* 72p) Annual subscription £8.34 including postage.

Government publications can be bought from the Government Bookshops in London (post orders to PO Box 569, SE1 9NH), Edinburgh, Cardiff, Belfast, Manchester, Birmingham and Bristol, or through booksellers

HMSO BOOKS

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You want your firm to grow
You can get a grant of up to 22% on the cost of plant, machinery and new building
The Areas for Expansion

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## Are you considering expansion?

If you are, you'll probably have read some of the advertisements above. And you'll know that you can get valuable grants for your firm by setting up a new project in one of Britain's Areas for Expansion — grants for new plant and machinery; for new building; and for removals; (There are also special grants now for service industries, offices etc. moving into the Areas for Expansion).

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## What the teams can do for you.

They will explain how you can qualify for the grants and low interest loans for projects increasing employment.

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What they **won't** do is try to make your decisions for you. Their job is to guide, not dictate.

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**Headquarters. London, tel: 01-834 2255 ext. 88**
**(24 hour answer service for booklet enquiries only – 01-834 2026)**

**Scotland** Glasgow, tel: 041-248 2855
**Wales** tel: Cardiff 62131 (STD code 0222)
**Northern Region** tel: Newcastle upon Tyne 27575 (STD code 0632)
**North West** Manchester, tel: 061-236 2171
**Yorkshire & Humberside** tel: Leeds 38232 (STD code 0532)
**East Midlands** tel: Nottingham 46121 (STD code 0602)
**West Midlands** Birmingham, tel: 021-632 4111
**South West** tel: Plymouth 21891 (STD code 0752) or Bristol 291071 (STD code 0272)
**Eastern Region** London, tel: 01-828 6271 ext. 104 or 61
**London & South East** London, tel: 01-828 4355 ext. 50
**Northern Ireland** tel: Belfast 34488 (STD code 0232) or London 01-493 0601

To: The Industrial Expansion Team, Department of Trade and Industry, Millbank Tower, Millbank, London SW1P 4QU.
*Please send me full details of the benefits available in the Areas for Expansion.*

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Position in Company_____
Company_____
Nature of Business_____
Address_____
Office Phone No._____ TI 26/11

**THE AREAS FOR EXPANSION**

ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY.

# 'Government determined to minimise damage caused by energy problems'

**—Mr. Tom Boardman**

'MUCH of the world is today faced with energy problems—in the short, medium and longer terms,' said Mr. Tom Boardman, Minister for Industry, to the Institution of Gas Engineers on November 20.

'Our plans to overcome the shorter and medium term ones must rely largely on the most effective exploitation and use of our fossil fuels.

'The avoidance of waste and reducing of demand so that it does not exceed available supplies are particularly relevant today.

'I will not elaborate on those now—except to say that, whilst the Government will not impose restrictions that are more stringent than, in our judgment, are necessary, nevertheless we are determined to take such action as may be required to minimise the damage to our economy and to the well being of the people of this country.

'In the longer term new sources of energy will be needed and much work is being done both nationally and internationally to this end.'

Mr. Boardman added: 'The happenings of the past two months have highlighted the importance of making the best possible use of our own resources of energy. In many ways Britain is in a stronger position than other major industrial countries, but the full realisation of the potential of our North Sea resources will be no easy task.'

# 'Good consumer relations are good business'

**—Sir Geoffrey Howe**

SIR Geoffrey Howe, Minister for Trade and Consumer Affairs, said on November 21 that recent legislation had established important rights for consumers—but that it was essential that retailers should help to safeguard those rights. Sir Geoffrey was speaking at the annual luncheon of the Multiple Shops Federation in London.

He said: 'I know good policies begin in the boardroom. But they certainly do not end there. You have to ensure that your company's policy and obligations towards its customers are understood right down the line. It is the branch managers, supervisors and assistants who have to deal face-to-face with the customers, including those who are angry or disappointed, perhaps with reason, perhaps without. I do not suggest each shop assistant can be an expert on the law relating to the sale of goods. But they have got to know that, however awkward the customer, they must not now say: "It's nothing to do with us, you'll have to take it up with the manufacturer."

'I should like to ask you some questions:

'First, and most important, how effective is your quality control? Does everybody in your company, from boardroom to stockroom, realise that it is upon the quality of all you do that the company's reputation, and so its commercial success, essentially depends?

'Second, what kind of after-sales service do you provide? Are spare-parts available in the right places and on time? Do you do enough to supervise the quality of servicing provided?

'Third, what is your company's attitude towards consumer complaints? How many complaints does your company receive? What are they about? And how are they handled? Are complaints dealt with in your company in some amorphous public relations department, where the main objective is simply to fend them off? Or are they treated as a sensitive yard-stick of performance? And are they genuinely fed back to the departments as invaluable evidence of consumer reaction? Perhaps the acid test is this: would you be prepared to publish in your Annual Report full details of the number and the pattern of the complaints that you receive and of the way in which they are dealt with?

'And, fourthly, what about your marketing techniques? Are your packages and labelling *entirely* accurate? Do they give the consumer all the information he (or she) is entitled to expect before she buys your product? Do you ensure that he is entitled to his full legal rights or do you seek to exclude them by some pretentious—but misleading—"guarantee"?

'Let no one doubt: good consumer relations are not only socially responsible; they are also good business.'

# Fresh food prices

THE Price Commission is conducting a study of the retail prices of Christmas turkeys. It will be publishing shortly the range of prices which the consumer can expect to have to pay and its regional officers will be monitoring the actual course of prices at the local level.

This investigation forms part of the Commission's surveillance over the course of fresh food prices following the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food's recent reference to it of this responsibility. This surveillance will be exercised both through the regular monitoring of retail prices and through special longer-term in-depth investigations. The Commission will be seeking to persuade all stages of the distributive trade to keep price increases under constraint and to make reductions whenever possible.

Since June, the Commission has been monitoring regularly the course of bacon prices in selected shops in major cities and towns and has secured reductions in bacon prices at the retail level. This regular monitoring of retail prices has already been extended to eggs and is now being extended to cover meat and poultry. Other foods will be added shortly. These surveys are undertaken by the Price Commissions's regional staff who currently collect prices on alternate weeks for different groups of products. They visit shops in

*(continued on next page)*


# Safety on Small Craft

Specially written for the Department of Trade and Industry by Guy Cole, an experienced yachtsman, this important publication gives authoritative advice on safety matters and is designed to encourage and help the occasional 'week-end' sailor to acquire an understanding of what is involved in the recreation of his choice. It will also have an interest for all concerned in sailing or who participate in water sports involving boats.

As well as explaining life-saving appliances and other equipment, it deals with facilities for learning boat handling techniques and skills, maintenance, navigation, Collision Regulations, weather and tide, and the search and rescue operation.

The book has many illustrations by David Cobb, the well known marine artist, and includes photographs.

**75p** (by post 83½p)

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HMSO BOOKS

## FRESH FOOD PRICES
*continued*

50 shopping areas throughout the country. For each commodity the Price Commission obtains about 1,500 price quotations every fortnight.

Full details of the in-depth investigations into the marketing arrangements and pricing practices for certain fresh foods will be given when the preparations to launch them have been completed.

### Note

On September 20, Mr. Joseph Godber, the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food made a reference to the Price Commission to keep under continuous review the course of fresh food prices at first hand and subsequent stages of distribution and to report periodically to him on these prices and margins. 'Fresh foods' includes meat, bacon, poultry, fish, eggs, and fruit and vegetables, whether homeproduced or imported.

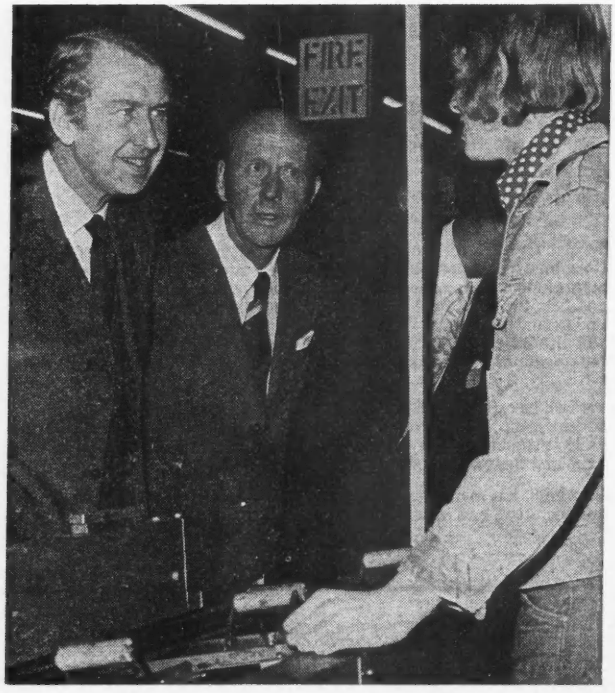
## New senior appointments at DTI

MR. Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, with agreement of the Prime Minister, has made the following appointments:

Sir Jack Rampton KCB, a Second Permanent Secretary in the Department, to take over responsibility for energy policy and for the energy and iron and steel industries in succession to Sir Robert Marshall, who has been appointed by the Prime Minister to a new post at the Department of Environment.

Mr. Peter Carey CB, a Deputy Secretary in the Department of Trade and Industry, on promotion to Second Permanent Secretary, to be Secretary (Industrial Development) in succession to Sir Jack Rampton.

Mr. B. G. Tucker OBE, an Under-Secretary in the Department of Trade and Industry, on promotion to Deputy Secretary, to succeed Mr. F. R. P. Vinter, when he retires next month.




*A £3 million expansion programme by Rank Radio International Ltd. was announced at the company's recent celebrations on the 25th anniversary of production in Plymouth. Mr. Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, is seen with Mr. L. C. Abrahams, production director, while touring the factory during the anniversary programme. The company, which manufactures television sets—mainly colour—is to build a 120,000 sq. ft. engineering block on the site of its present factory at Ernesettle and is to rent a factory at Saltash which will employ 400 people. At present the company has over 5,000 on its staff in Devon and Cornwall, of whom 3,700 are located in Plymouth.*

# Encouraging signs of political commitment to European aircraft industry

**—Mr. Cranley Onslow**

DURING the past 12 months there had been steadily increasing recognition of the need for concerted action towards a European aircraft industry and a number of most encouraging signs of political commitment to the idea, said Mr. Cranley Onslow, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Aerospace and Shipping, in an address to the Western European Union Assembly in Paris on November 22.

Mr. Onslow recalled the remarks of the French Prime Minister, M. Messmer, at this year's Paris air show, the remarks of Dr. Scheel, the Federal German Foreign Minister at Munich, and the speech of M. Guena, the French Transport Minister at WEU. He welcomed the suggestion of M. Guena about an understanding on prior consultation on future civil projects, and commented: 'This would be a clear step forward. I know too that the manufacturing industry is already drawing together in a number of ways to discuss future project possibilities.'

He also quoted the examples of the 13-year-old Eurocontrol organisation and the decision last summer to set up the new European Space Agency as evidence of the progress that could be made in Europe if the political will was there and the opportunities were taken.

'I believe they could help to point the way towards a still more important target—the creation of a strong and firmly based European aerospace industry, capable of holding its own against all competition, of maintaining a capacity for innovation equal to any in the world, of providing defence and security for our people, and just rewards for their skill and investment. If I am right in believing that political will is one essential condition of success, I hope that here in WEU that will is alive today,' he concluded.

### Energy situation

Commenting on the oil situation, Mr. Onslow said: 'The direction in which aviation will move in the future is now by no means as clear as it seemed until recently. For example, without wishing to over dramatise the situation, we have seen a change in the energy situation which could have significant implications for the aerospace sector. There could be a slackening in the pace of innovation, so that the new projects for the 1980's which firms are currently turning over in their minds might become the projects of the 1990's.

'I should stress that I am not making firm predictions. What is clear, however, is that the days when one could confidently rely on ever-rising forecasts of traffic growth and demand for aircraft may be past. We cannot cling uncritically to the assumption that the demand curve will always continue on its upward path. Realism requires that we should also envisage the possibility of a different trend, and that we should assess the impact of that trend on the market: and it may even be necesary to reassess world demand for technological progress as such.'

Mr. Onslow added that while it was important for Europe to maintain high standards of technology, 'I doubt whether we can any longer afford unquestioning support for technology for its own sake without regard for economics. The public purse is not bottomless, and our electors must increasingly expect their Governments to pay regard to the economics of aerospace as they see how expensive new projects can be. I believe that one of the major implications of this for the aircraft industry is that the people of Europe will expect expenditure in this field to become steadily more consistent with the generally accepted aim of integration of the European industry.'

### Defence

On defence, he said: 'It is clearly important that we should not forget the importance of the military sector, not only because of its role in assuring European defence but also for industrial reasons. If civil opportunities do recede, then even more will depend on prospects of the military sector, which already provides so much of the industry's bread and butter. Yet many of the same problems exist here also. The cost of developing major new combat aircraft is

rising with each generation so, however much they may wish to retain an independent industrial capability, all European countries can see the advantages of shared development costs and longer production runs. The United Kingdom has been in the forefront in promoting international collaboration in this area with the Jaguar, the Puma, Gazelle and Lynx helicopters, and now the biggest aircraft programme in Europe, the MRCA. We shall continue to consult our allies in good time about possible new requirements and if others do the same, it should be possible to avoid the wasteful emergence of competing national products. The efforts we have been making in the military sector could well provide us with guidelines on which to base success in the civil field.'

He emphasised that Europe should be striving for what it might call its 'fair share' of markets. If European industry had sold the same proportion to European airlines as the American firms sold to their home airlines, we would have sold not £800 million of aircraft, but about £2,500 million. That was a measure of the opportunities lost. If we were to compete with the American giants, we must match the Americans by combining our efforts to form economic units of sufficient size to design, develop, produce and market aircraft as a viable operation.

# Monopolies Commission's report on supply and exports of wire rope and fibre rope and cordage

SIR Geoffrey Howe, Minister for Trade and Consumer Affairs, announced in Parliament on November 20 that he has accepted in principle the recommendations of the Monopolies Commission in their report on the supply and exports of wire rope and fibre rope and cordage.

He said: 'The report has been published today. The Commission found that monopoly conditions, as defined in the legislation in force when this report was submitted, prevail in the supply and export of wire and fibre ropes. One supplier, British Ropes Ltd., has more than one-third of both the home and export markets.

'The Commission have found that this company, because of its size and market share, is a price leader in the United Kingdom ropes industry. However, the company has not abused its monopoly position nor made excessive profits as a result of that position.

'In their examination of the export market, the Commission considered that the various export agreements operated by export associations and individual companies were not necessarily against the public interest. The fact that the profitability of exports was lower than that of sales in the home market indicated to the Commission that the export agreements were not operating against the interests of other countries but were a way of protecting the high standards of service and quality provided by United Kingdom manufacturers.

'The Commission have, however, found that two particular practices of British Ropes have operated against the public interest. These practices are:

(i) the seeking or receiving from other manufacturers of information about the level of discounts allowed to particular home customers; and

(ii) the "flag" agreement under which Dutch, Norwegian and German manufacturers and British Ropes agree not to undercut each others' tender prices for supplies of ropes to ships of each others' respective countries.

'As a remedy the Commission recommended that British Ropes should (i) cease giving, seeking or receiving information on discounts for home supplies and (ii) terminate the "flag" agreement in so far as it applies to the United Kingdom. I accept the recommendations of this report in principle. I am asking the Director General of Fair Trading to discuss the implementation of the recommendations with the company who, I understand, have withdrawn from the "flag" agreement since the Commission submitted the report to me.'

*A £450,000 factory for Peter Stubs Ltd., the Warrington based manufacturer of files and silver steel, was opened recently by Lord Limerick, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Trade. The opening coincided with the company's bicentenary year. The picture shows Mr. George Strettle, whose family has been associated with Stubs since 1803, demonstrating the art of file cutting to Lord Limerick and Mr. J. Hugh Neill (left), chairman and chief executive of the parent firm, James Neill Holdings Ltd. Over half the files Stubs make are exported and Stubs silver steel is a popular product on the Continent.*

## Notes

The Commission submitted their report on the supply and exports of wire rope and fibre rope and cordage on June 8, 1973.

The reference was made on March 23, 1971 under Section 2(1) of the Monopolies and Restrictive Practices (Inquiry and Control) Act 1948 as amended by the Restrictive Trade Practices Act 1956, and the Monopolies and Mergers Act 1965.

The Commission at present have the following monopoly references before them: primary batteries; contraceptive sheaths; restrictions on advertising by accountants, stockbrokers and veterinary surgeons; the regulation of charges by scale fees of architects and surveyors; indirect electrostatic reprographic equipment; building bricks; flour and bread. Reports on the supply of plasterboard and on the supply of certain cross-Channel car ferry services have been received and will be published as soon as possible.

Copies of the report are available from HMSO (price 90p).

# DTI issues revised VDI index

A FULL subject index, and revisions or additions to 120 of the 840 items, are features of the 1973 English-language Index to VDI Richtlinien which the Department of Trade and Industry has published.

The index lists all the engineering guidelines which the Verein Deutscher Ingenieure—Association of German Engineers—issues as VDI Richtlinien. DTI has produced the English-language version in collaboration with the British Standards Institution.

Richtlinien are authoritative data sheets covering engineering and technology practice in many different branches. They are written in the form of recommendations, and are more detailed and wider in scope than their nearest British equivalent, the BSI Codes of Practice.

VDI Richtlinien collection covers 24 major fields of technology, including engineering design and techniques, metrology, heating and ventilating, and power engineering. It has 259 items on various aspects of production engineering and 165 on materials handling.

(*continued on next page*)

## DTI ISSUES REVISED VDI INDEX

*continued*

Environmental subjects are dealt with in 32 noise abatement and vibration control guidelines, also 95 on air pollution control. The use of Richtlinien is specified frequently in export tenders for Germany and other European countries.

The Data and Information Systems Unit of the Department of Trade and Industry holds a complete and up-to-date collection of VDI Richtlinien in German. It operates an information and loan service for UK industry, trade and research organisations. The English language Index is designed as a guide to the collection.

Copies of the '1973 Index to VDI Richtlinien' are available at 50p post paid (postage covers UK only). Remittances, made payable to the Department of Trade and Industry, should be sent to: Data and Information Systems Unit, Department of Trade and Industry, Room 205, Abell House, John Islip Street, London SW1P 4LN—or the DTI Technology Reports Centre, Station Square House, St. Mary Cray, Orpington, Kent, BR5 3RF.

## Patents endorsed 'Licences of Right'

UNDER Section 35 of the Patents Act 1949, the following patents were endorsed 'Licences of Right' on the dates specified.

| Number | Grantee | Subject-matter |
|---|---|---|
| November 6, 1973 | | |
| 925,519 | Regie Nationale des Usines Renault | Vacuum-operated clutches |
| 1,147,331 | Hawker Siddeley Dynamics Ltd. | Ceramic or glass surface-coatings |
| 1,314,544 | Glaverbel | Apparatus for handling articles, particularly materials in sheet form |
| 1,316,417 | Glaverbel | Process and apparatus for the manufacture of sheet glass |
| 1,317,023 | Glaverbel | Process for modifying a property of glass or vitrocrystalline material |
| 1,317,816 | Glaverbel | Load handling devices |
| 1,321,742 | Glaverbel | Glass panels |
| November 8, 1973 | | |
| 1,098,233 | Creusot—Loire (formerly known as Compagnie Des Ateliers Et Forges De La Loire (St. Chamond, Firminy, St. Etienne, Jacob-Holtzer) ) | Method of manufacturing moulding cast-irons having a predetermined analysis from a first melt case-iron |
| 1,266,637 | Creusot—Loire | Process for manufacturing plated products |
| 1,309,173 | Creusot—Loire | Foam abatement |
| 1,031,870 | Willi Ernst Salzmann | Improvements in differential gears with locking means |
| 1,120,294 | Gevaert-Agfa N.V. | Filter dyes and their use in photographic materials |
| 1,293,109 | Societe Franco Americaine de Constructions Atomiques (Framatone) | An installation for measuring a variable quantity in the core of nuclear reactor |
| 1,308,870 | Societe d'Optique, Precision, Electronique et Meccanique-Sopelem | Apparatus for producing an electrical signal related to the concentration of a solution |
| 1,310,385 | La Metallurgic Francoise des Poudres Metafram | Brake or clutch linings |
| 1,313,782 | Societe d'Optique, Precision, Electronique st Meccanique-Sopelem | Electron microscope comprising a velocity filter system |
| 1,314,880 | Societe Nouvelle des Ateliers De Venissieux | Double-deck wagons for transporting vehicles |

Any person who claims that the patentee at the time of endorsement of any of the above patents was precluded by a contract in which claimant is interested from granting Licences under the patents may apply for cancellation of the endorsement on Patents Form No. 45 within two months after the date of endorsement.

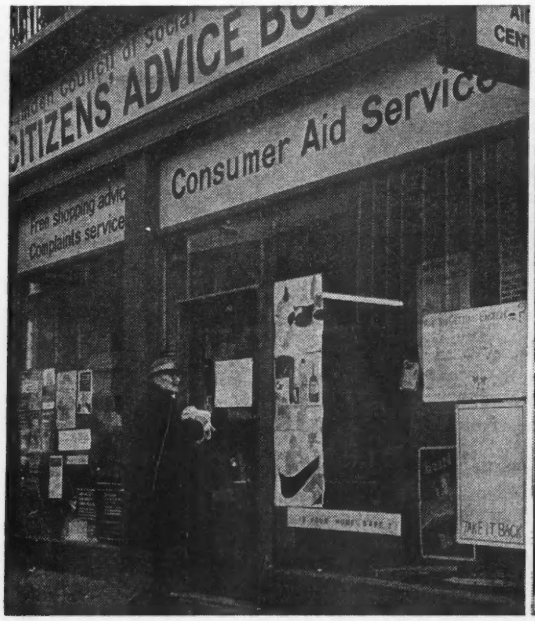
E. ARMITAGE
Comptroller

## Proceedings under Section 36 of the Patents Act, 1949

NOTICE is hereby given that the endorsement 'Licences of Right' upon the undermentioned Patent was cancelled on November 3, 1973.

| Number | Grantee | Subject-matter |
|---|---|---|
| 1,187,170 | Georg Friedrich Giebler | Rear view mirror assembly for vehicles |

E. ARMITAGE
Comptroller



*Sir Geoffrey Howe, Minister for Trade and Consumer Affairs, met 200 representatives of local authorities in England and Wales and other organisations concerned with consumer advice, at Church House, Westminster, last week. He had invited the representatives to discuss ways in which they might work together to set up a co-ordinated and comprehensive nationwide network of consumer advice centres. Among the speakers were Mr. Graham Page, Minister for Local Government and Development, and Mr. John Methven, Director General of Fair Trading. A number of people with experience of planning and running a consumer advice service were among the representatives. Two of the consumer advice centres already set up by local authorities are shown above, those of the London Boroughs of Camden and Havering. The Camden premises is shared by the local authority and the Citizens' Advice Bureau. In its recently completed first year of operation, the Havering Advice Centre (which Sir Geoffrey was due to visit yesterday) dealt with 30,000 callers.*

# Amendments to VAT regulations

THE Value Added Tax (General) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1973 (SI 1973 No. 1882) were laid before Parliament on November 20. References to the Principal Regulations are to the Value Added Tax (General) Regulations 1972 (SI 1972 No. 1147).

Regulation 1 gives the date of operation of the Regulations as December 11, 1973. Regulation 2 is concerned with the interpretation of the Regulations.

### Supply of second-hand goods by partly exempt dealers

**Regulation 3.** Regulation 25(c) of the Principal Regulations, which provides for all or part of the value of certain taxable supplies to be excluded from calculations of deductible input tax, has been amended so that a dealer who sells an article and accounts for output tax on his margin under one of the second-hand goods relief schemes is not debarred from including the whole selling price (excluding VAT) in the calculation. This involves no change of practice, but removes a legal barrier to deduction by the dealer of some input tax which he should be entitled to recover.

### Treatment of partly exempt persons as fully taxable

**Regulation 4(a).** Regulation 27(2) of the Principal Regulations, which provides for a partly exempt person to be treated as fully taxable for the purpose of deducting input tax if the value of his exempt supplies is less than prescribed limits, has been amended. The effect of the amendment is to exclude from the total value of supplies, on which the 5 per cent limit is based, any part of the value of a taxable supply on which output tax is not chargeable.

Partly exempt dealers selling second-hand goods under the relief schemes are not affected and the amendment involves no change of existing practice for other partly exempt persons.

**Regulation 4(b).** Regulation 27(3) of the Principal Regulations, which provides that a partly exempt person may be treated as fully taxable for the purpose of deducting input tax if the amount of input tax attributable to his exempt supplies is less than 5 per cent of his total input tax, has been amended to make it clear that, where the Regulation provides for certain exempt supplies to be disregarded, this means the input tax attributable to the supplies and not the supplies themselves.

### Claims for relief from VAT incurred before registration

**Regulation 5.** Regulation 29(1) of the Principal Regulations, which deals with claims by newly-registered persons for relief from VAT incurred before registration, has been amended to enable the Commissioners to accept claims which cannot be made within six months after the effective date of registration because, for example, registration has been back-dated.

### Exports

**Regulation 6.** Regulation 6 provides that a manufacturer is not now excluded from the interpretation of an 'export house' in Regulation 30(1) of the Principal Regulations. The effect is that supplies to manufacturers in transactions in which they function as export houses may be zero-rated under the provisions of Regulation 41 of the Principal Regulations.

**Regulation 7.** Regulation 7 provides that supplies to export houses under Regulation 41 of the Principal Regulations may be zero-rated notwithstanding that they are delivered to an export packer in the course of exportation but this does not apply to goods delivered to the export house's own packing department.

### Accounting and payment

**Regulations 8 and 9.** Paragraph 3 of Regulation 46 of the Principal Regulations, which requires the representative member of a group registered for VAT purposes to provide, quarterly, certain information, in the prescribed form numbered 5 in respect of each member company of the group, is by Regulation 9 superseded by a new paragraph which provides for information to be furnished annually. Regulation 8 prescribes a new form numbered 5. It will be sent to the representative member annually in May and will provide for the information required for its completion to be completed from the trading figures required by the Companies Act 1967.

**Regulations 10, 11 and 12.** Regulations 10, 11 and 12 introduce greater flexibility to Regulations 49, 50(2) and 51 of the Principal Regulations dealing respectively with the estimation of output tax and deductible input tax, and with the correction of errors by registered persons in accounting for tax.

### Distress

**Regulation 13.** Regulation 52(1) of the Principal Regulations has been amended to provide that distress shall not be levied in respect of an amount due under Section 31(6) of the Finance Act 1972 during the period in which there is a right of appeal against the assessment to a Value Added Tax Tribunal.

### Diligence (in Scotland)

**Regulation 14.** Regulation 53 of the Principal Regulations has been amended to bring various references into line with the provisions of The Sheriff Courts (Scotland) Act 1971 and the terms of Section 1(1) of the Decimal Currency Act 1967.

The Regulations are published as Statutory Instrument 1973 No. 1882 and are available price 8p (by post 11p) from HM Stationery Office or through booksellers.

## New publication for VAT traders

EVERY registered VAT trader is to receive a copy of a new quarterly publication *VAT News*, which will appear for the first time in February 1974.

*VAT News*, which will also go to trade associations and other representative and consultative bodies, will contain news and comment on matters of general interest and will mention items of more specialised interest about which details can be obtained at local VAT offices. The publication will include any amendments to

*(continued on next page)*

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## NEW PUBLICATION FOR VAT TRADERS

*continued*

the VAT notices. The current series of amendment leaflets, of which nos. 1 and 2 have already appeared, will be discontinued.

The announcement of this scheme to acquaint traders of VAT developments is made by Customs and Excise in the tenth and final issue of *VAT Bulletin*.

## £1.8 million reduction in prices

ON October 16 the Price Commission announced the agreement of a number of distributors of timber to make price reductions of up to 5 per cent in their selling prices in accordance with the provisions of the Code. This reduction amounted to £1.5 million.

As forecast in this announcement, further agreements with a number of Category II firms in a variety of distributive trades, including timber, have now been reached to bring them in line with their profit reference levels. These new reductions which amount to £1.8 million will be effected either by price reductions or by the absorption of increased costs.

## 150 new office jobs for Pontypool

THE Department of Trade and Industry announced on November 21 that Wean Ltd., will take over a large part of the ICI Fibres administration block at Pontypool which became vacant as a result of the research department being transferred to Harrogate.

This is the first service industry project to apply for grants available under the Government's Office Incentive Scheme.

Wean Ltd., which was formed in 1960, are a subsidiary of Wean United Inc., Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA, and are designers and manufacturers of steel and non-ferrous strip processing equipment. The company have manufacturing arrangements with several of the largest and best known engineering companies in the UK together with a wide variety of smaller units which are used for fabrication, machining and assembly of the smaller items of equipment. It has been found that this type of arrangement has made it possible to obtain the highest quality workmanship required with deliveries to suit all installation programmes.

The company are transferring from Croydon their office staff of sales and project engineers and it is anticipated that 20 key-workers will move to Pontypool. Wean Ltd. will open the offices on January 4 and eventually, it is anticipated, 150 people will be employed there on the design, purchase, progress and management of the contracts side of the company's organisation.

## New advance factories in Yorkshire and Humberside

THE English Industrial Estates Corporation announce orders worth more than £250,000 have been placed for the construction of three advance factories in the Yorkshire and Humberside Region.

A contract has been awarded to Quibell and Son Ltd. of Hull who are to build a 15,000 sq. ft. factory on the Sutton Fields Industrial Estate, Hull. This is the second government factory to be built in Hull. The first is occupied by Dale Electric of Great Britain Ltd.

In Doncaster two factories, one of 15,000 sq. ft. and the other a block of four terrace units totalling about 900 $m^2$ (10,000 sq. ft.) are to be built on the Shaw Lane Industrial Estate. The contract for building these factories has been awarded to Firth Construction Ltd. of Doncaster. The first government factory built on this site is currently being occupied by Linton and Hirst Ltd.

## New Cases factory at Caldicot

E.C. CASES Ltd. of Taffs Well, have opened a new factory on the Severn Bridge Industrial Estate, Caldicot, Mon. The commissioning of the factory follows the development of a new range of domestic greenhouses which has been successfully carried out at Taffs Well this year.

The Caldicot area is also able to supply an excellent labour force and the company plans to gradually expand its new factory to accommodate the administrative and sales functions of the new project.

## Pergamon Press Ltd.

THE Inspector's final report on the affairs of Pergamon Press Ltd., which incorporates their reports on the affairs of Maxwell Scientific International (Distribution Services) Ltd. and on Robert Maxwell and Co. Ltd., was published on November 20.

The Inspectors, Mr. R. O. C. Stable, QC and Sir Ronald Leach, FCA, submitted the report on August 16, 1973.

The report is available from HMSO, price £6.

## New company sets up in Northern Ireland

A NEW factory development in Northern Ireland, Glen Electric Ltd., expects to employ about 150 people, Mr. David Howell, Minister of State at the Northern Ireland Office, announced on November 20.

Glen Electric, a new company assisted by the Ministry of Commerce and the Northern Ireland Finance Corporation, is setting up in a 30,000 sq. ft. Government advance factory on Newry's Greenbank Industrial Estate to manufacture a range of domestic electrical appliances. The employment target is 150 people over three years. Starting production shortly with a work-force of 30-40 men, the factory will initially produce oil-filled radiators and then develop into a range of domestic electrical appliances.

Selling mainly through multiple stores, the company expects that initially 90 per cent of its output will be to the UK market and the remainder to the Republic of Ireland. Europe, Japan and Australia will be the company's eventual export markets.

## Television manufacturers expand at Camborne-Redruth

WORK will shortly begin on a 41,000 sq. ft. extension, approved earlier this year by the Department of Trade and Industry, to the premises occupied by Rank Radio International Ltd. at Carn Brea, Camborne-Redruth, Cornwall.

A contract has been awarded to C. E. Christian Ltd. of Newquay, who are to build the extension. Architects for the project are Pearn and Proctor and the Quantity Surveyors are J. H. Snellgrove & Partners. Work is expected to start almost immediately and the premises should be completed by late 1974.

Rank Radio International Ltd., well known as manufacturers of television sets, have been in occupation at Camborne-Redruth since 1963 and this is the fifth extension to be built to the original 31,000 sq. ft. factory. The company now occupy 47,500 sq. ft. of space and employ about 1,300 people. When this latest extension is completed the total area will be nearly 90,000 sq. ft. and a further 400 people will eventually be employed.

## Ship Captain's Medical Guide

THE Department of Trade and Industry has now issued a Second (1973) Reprint of the Twentieth Edition of the Ship Captain's Medical Guide 1967.

In the 1973 Reprint, amendments include the insertion in the First Aid section of a new sub-section dealing with Hypothermia (Immersion Chilling), and, in the Causes and Prevention of Disease section, revision of the section entitled Hints about Food.

The Department has also issued Amendment No. 4 to the 1967 Edition and the 1971 Reprint (which incorporated Amendments Nos. 1 and 2) of the Guide. This Amendment will bring the 1967 and 1971 Editions into line with the new 1973 Reprint.

Copies of the 1973 Reprint (price £2.50 net) and of Amendment No. 4 (price 10½p net) are obtainable from Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

## Official appointments

MR. Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, has appointed Mr. E. Hayhurst, Mrs. J. M. Knott, Mrs. P. McLaughlin, and Mrs. J. A. Powell, and has also re-appointed for a further term Mr. H. H. Milne and Mrs. G. M. Webber, as members of the Domestic Coal Consumers' Council.

STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS
1973 No. 1785
COUNTER-INFLATION
The Counter-Inflation (Price and Pay Code) (No. 2) Order 1973
Made 26 October 1973
Laid before Parliament 30 October 1973
Coming into operation 1 November 1973
Counter-Inflation Act 1973

# If you're a distributor you should find out how the changes in the Stage 3 Price Code affect you

**Wholesalers, retailers and other distributive trades in all Categories should study the Stage 3 Code as it imposes specific obligations on them**

## Category II distributors

(Domestic sales of over £10 million p.a.) These companies have to establish with the Commission their net profit margin reference levels and gross percentage margins before December 1st, 1973. They are also obliged to send in quarterly returns. Detailed guidance of the action they need to take will be provided by the Price Commission.

## Category III distributors

(Domestic sales between £250,000 and £10 million p.a.) These organisations have to work out their own net profit margin reference levels and gross percentage margins for themselves, and knowledge of the Code is essential for these purposes. They must also keep records available for inspection by the regional offices of the Price Commission.

**Profit margins *must* be kept within both the gross percentage and the net profit margin reference levels; if either is exceeded, then (subject to seasonal and other factors), prices must be reduced.**

## Companies below Category III

These should also study the new Code and must follow its rules.

## All Companies

Every business must abide by the Price and Pay Code. Anyone requiring further information should contact their regional centre. A new Price Commission booklet will shortly be available at these centres. It is free.

**A further advertisement for Manufacture & Service Industries will appear next week.**

Copies of the Counter-Inflation Act 1973;
The Price and Pay Code, SI 1785;
Notification of Increases in Prices and Charges, SI 1786;
Prices and Charges (Information), SI 1787,
are available from Government Bookshops,
or through Booksellers.

## Price Commission Centres

**Office for Scotland**
3rd Floor, 440 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow G2 3NS. Tel: 041-332 6348

**West Midlands Region**
Bayliss House, Hurst Street, Birmingham B5 4BS. Tel: 021-622 3541/4

**London and South East Region**
2nd Floor, Wingate House, Shaftesbury Avenue, London W1B 7AE. Tel: 01-439 4401

**Eastern Region**
2nd Floor, Wingate House, Shaftesbury Avenue, London W1B 7AE. Tel: 01-439 4401

**East Midlands Region**
Spur E, Block 6, Government Buildings, Chalfont Drive, Nottingham NG8 3RP. Tel: Nottingham 291111 (STD code 0602)

**Yorkshire & Humberside Region**
3rd Floor, Royal Exchange House, Boar Lane, Leeds LS1 5NS. Tel: Leeds 38133 (STD code 0532)

**Northern Region**
Gunner House, Neville Street, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 5DN. Tel: Newcastle upon Tyne 611331 (STD code 0632)

**North West Region**
Warwickgate House, 7 Warwick Road, Old Trafford, Manchester M16 0HP. Tel: 061-872 6911/4

**South West Region**
12th Floor, Froomsgate House, Rupert Street, Bristol BS1 2QN. Tel: Bristol 299727 (STD code 0272)

**Office for Wales**
4th Floor, Westminster House, 95/97 St. Mary Street, Cardiff CF1 1DX. Tel: Cardiff 41852/4 (STD code 0222)

**Northern Ireland**
3rd Floor, Midland Hotel, Whitla Street, Belfast BT15 1JP. Tel: 0232 740493/4

PRICE COMMISSION

**ISSUED BY THE PRICE COMMISSION**

# Read the Code-it's your business to know

# PARLIAMENT

**Supplementary questions and answers on the points in these pages are published in *Hansard***

## MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19

### Fuel supply

Mr. Walker made the following statement:

'In my statement to the House on October 24 I informed the House that in view of the potential dangers to our Middle East oil supplies the Government had decided to take controls over the export of oil and oil products and to bring contingency plans to introduce rationing to a state of readiness. I also informed the House that we would prepare legislation to allow controls upon the distribution of petrol and oil. This legislation has now been prepared and will be introduced tomorrow.

'At the same time we urged voluntary savings to take place in energy consumption. Important actions have been taken by a number of the major users of energy including the power stations and airlines and on November 14 the Government made orders banning the use of certain types of space heating and advertising signs.

'We now face a situation in which all our energy supplies are at risk; coal and electricity, because of industrial action and oil, because of continuing uncertainty about production in the Arab countries.

'We enjoy substantial stocks of both oil and coal. But, if we are to guarantee the minimum impact upon employment and industrial production throughout the coming winter, further action is now necessary to conserve stocks.

'We are therefore immediately directing the oil companies to reduce deliveries of all the main oil products across the board by 10 per cent compared with the corresponding period last year. In the case of petrol stations the figure will be 10 per cent compared with September of this year. This will be implemented from tomorrow. We have prepared a list of essential services and industries; and whilst these will also be subject to the 10 per cent cut initially, provision will be made for adjustment to meet their essential needs. The 10 per cent reduction will not apply to public transport.

'The cuts to garages need not cause undue hardship or disruption because of the considerable scope for reducing private and non-essential motoring.

'I contemplated the possibility of putting a ban on weekend or Sunday motoring. I decided that making such motoring illegal would cause considerable personal difficulties because there is a whole range of essential purposes and also activities such as that of church services, visiting hospitals and other welfare needs. I would ask people to reduce weekend motoring to the minimum. I must ask everyone to cut out motoring on Sundays other than when the journey is absolutely essential.

'To impose a compulsory speed limit would involve major problems of enforcement. But in view of the considerable saving of petrol that can be made I must request the nation to impose upon itself a speed limit of 50 miles per hour as from today.

'I am introducing an Order prohibiting the purchasing of petrol in cans.

'I have consulted with the CBI, the oil companies and the motoring organisations and they have agreed to co-operate in every way possible to see that these reductions of our energy consumption are obtained with the minimum of disruption.'

## Ministers at the Department of Trade and Industry

**Secretary of State for Trade and Industry: Mr. Peter Walker**

**Minister for Trade and Consumer Affairs: Sir Geoffrey Howe**
**Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Trade: Lord Limerick**

**Minister for Industrial Development: Mr. Christopher Chataway**
**Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Industrial Development: Mr. Anthony Grant**

**Minister for Aerospace and Shipping: Mr. Michael Heseltine**
**Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Aerospace and Shipping: Mr. Cranley Onslow**

**Minister for Industry: Mr. Tom Boardman**
**Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Industry and Consumer Affairs: Mr. Peter Emery**

**Minister without Portfolio: Lord Drumalbyn**

### Domestic energy resources

In answer to a request for a statement on the supplies of indigenous sources of energy available for the oncoming winter, Mr. Walker said: 'The majority of our gas supplies will be available from the North Sea. Electricity supplies will depend upon the available supplies of both oil and coal. The Coal Industry Act and the terms of Phase 3 were constructed so as to give the maximum encouragement to increase coal production.'

'My long term policy,' said Mr. Walker in reply to another question, 'is to make the maximum use of the United Kingdom's indigenous resources and, where imports are needed, to do everything possible to ensure that they are obtained on satisfactory terms both as to price and security.' Mr. Walker was also asked to estimate domestically produced fuel resources. He said: 'Figures for UK resources of oil and gas are contained in the report "Production and reserves of oil and gas on the UK Continental Shelf," presented to Parliament in May. The NCB estimate reserves of economically workable coal accessible to currently working collieries at about 4,000 million tons, with further reserves amounting to some 12,000 million tons. It is estimated that by 1980 we could be producing more than three-quarters of our energy requirements from domestic resources.'

### Energy consumption

A Member asked for a statement 'on the outcome of evaluations by the Government on the period of time for which it will be possible to sustain modern forms of industrial and social organisations with their dependence on high energy consumption; and whether he will make a statement on the research being undertaken by the Government into alternative forms of industrial and social organisation.' Mr. Boardman answered: 'Such studies are inevitably very complex, involving as they do estimates of future population growth, availability of food, levels of industrial development, living standards and a number of other factors; even with full international co-operation, therefore, they cannot be completed quickly. However, it can be estimated that world reserves of fossil fuels are sufficient to meet a level of economic activity substantially greater than at present for many decades. Their use will be progressively supplemented and replaced by nuclear power and possibly by other new sources of energy, including some which would be unexhaustible or virtually so. Adaptation to the increasing scarcity and cost of the most convenient forms of fossil fuel will be a major task for mankind. The solution of this and other problems of the future will require resources likely to be available only in highly-organised technological societies and will also call for wide international co-operation.'

### North sea oil

In reply to a question on plans to increase UK oil refining capacity, in view of the world oil crisis and the first commercial production of North Sea oil next year, Mr. Walker said: 'United Kingdom refining capacity has been increased by 18 million tons during 1973, and is higher than our normal consumption. It is the Government's policy to encourage home refinery capacity.'

Another question concerned the date when North Sea oil would begin to flow to Scotland in convenient quantities; and the latest estimate of the reserves in the British sector of the North Sea. Mr. Emery answered that the first North Sea oil to be landed in Scotland by pipeline was expected to be in the Spring of 1975. Recoverable reserves of the fields now considered to be commercial were estimated to be about 800 million tons. If further appraisal drilling confirmed that other finds already reported were commercial the figure could be higher.

### Use of aviation fuel

Replying to a question on the Secretary of State's powers to restrict the use of aviation fuel by the limitation of the services of British and foreign carriers, Mr. Emery said that British carriers operated under the terms of licences awarded by The Civil Aviation Authority who followed policy guidance approved by Parlia-

ment. Foreign aircraft operated into and out of this country under permits granted by the Secretary of State. The supply of aviation fuel was being closely watched with other oil supplies.

## Coal-fired power stations

A Member asked Mr. Walker to outline the arrangements made for the expansion of coal use in power stations arising from the limitation of oil supplies. 'CEGB have, with coal fired stations already in operation, the capacity to increase substantially their burn of coal,' he answered.

Another question was on the proportion of electricity generating stations in Great Britain and Northern Ireland which were oil-fired and the percentage coal-fired; and how many were dual purpose or capable of being adapted from oil burning to coal burning and what would be the cost of such conversion. Mr. Emery answered: 'Some 64 per cent of publicly owned generating in the UK is coal-fired and 20 per cent oil-fired. Of the remainder one station (Kingsnorth) is dual fired on coal/oil and two stations (Hams Hall "C" and West Thurrock) are dual fired on gas/coal. These dual fired stations amount to only 5 per cent of the total capacity.

'For technical reasons, stations built to burn oil cannot be converted to coal firing. Where coal-fired stations have been converted to burn oil the practicability and cost of readapting them to burn coal depends on a large number of different factors.'

## Colliery closures

Mr. Walker told a Member who asked how many collieries had been closed by the National Coal Board since June 1970; and to compare this figure with closures during the preceding seven years, that 29 collieries had closed since June 1970. In the years ended June 1964 to 1970 the number of closures were 28, 44, 50, 41, 63, 44 and 16 respectively. A total of 286.

## Supply of petrol

Sir Geoffrey Howe was asked if powers would be sought to prevent pressure by oil companies on managers or tenants of petrol stations in relation to the products they sell. He answered that, following the Monopolies Commission Report on the supply of petrol to retailers, the oil companies gave undertakings about the free choice of products (other than petrol) in garages which they owned and leased or which they supplied with petrol under a solus agreement. Sir Geoffrey added: 'The Director-General of Fair Trading intends shortly to review those undertakings and will be opening discussions with the oil companies.'

## References to Monopolies Commission

Answering a question on the number of take-overs and mergers referred to the Monopolies Commission in 1971 and 1972; and how many have been referred so far in 1973, Sir Geoffrey Howe said that, apart from proposals for newspaper mergers, one proposed merger was referred in 1971, three in 1972 and seven so far in 1973.

## Trade directories

Mr. Emery told a Member that 724 complaints had been received since January 1, 1972, about the activities of firms dealing in trade directories.

## Trade with Japan

Asked to make a statement on the recent trade talks with Japan, Mr. Walker said: 'During my discussions with Japanese Ministers in Tokyo in September, I emphasised our desire for an expansion of economic relations with Japan and the need to avoid situations which threaten the balanced development of trade. I pressed for the easing of the remaining hindrances to the rising volume of British exports to Japan and discussed the possibilities of Japanese investment in Britain and co-operative ventures in the field of nuclear energy and in third countries.' The Secretary of State was also asked what discussions he had had with the Japanese ball-bearing industry representatives or with Japanese Ministers regarding the establishment of Japanese ball-bearing manufacturing facilities in Great Britain and whether it was his policy to give financial or other aid. Mr. Grant answered: 'A Japanese company considering the manufacture of ball-bearings in Western Europe has consulted my Department about the possibility of setting up a plant in the UK. The hope was expressed to the company that, subject to certain assurances, the project would come to the UK. If this proves to be the company's decision, and if it is located in one of the assisted areas. the project would qualify for the appropriate aid under the Industry Act in the same way as would any similar investment whether British or foreign.'

## DTI aid to industry

'All expenditure by my Department is in one form or another designed to assist industry,' said Mr. Walker in reply to a question on the total amount of Government aid in all its aspects to industry in the last 12 months. 'In the 12 months to the end of September this year, the total expenditure by my Department was approximately £1,000 million.'

## Missions to EEC countries

A Member who asked about help given by the DTI to regional chambers of commerce in fact-finding and trade missions to EEC countries was told by Sir Geoffrey Howe that, with the help of the British Overseas Trade Board, the London and Birmingham Chambers were each organising one mission of small firms new to exporting.

## Company law

'The Government will seek powers in the forthcoming Companies Bill to deal with certain specific abuses which may occur in takeover situations,' said Sir Geoffrey Howe, when asked to incorporate the Take Over Code in statutory form.

Sir Geoffrey was also asked if powers would be sought to ensure that, where private companies or businesses sought cash from the public, the full names of all directors, or partners should appear on all paper used by the undertakings together with those of the company secretary and managing director, or manager. 'I have this matter under consideration in the context of the Companies Bill,' he answered.

Another Member asked Sir Geoffrey to widen his company law reform proposals to include areas of company jurisdiction not covered in the recent White Paper such as insider dealings by financial journalists and further safeguards relating to take-overs of city discount houses. 'I would ask the hon. Member to await the detailed proposals in the forthcoming Companies Bill,' answered Sir Geoffrey. 'As to the takeovers, discount houses are subject to the same rules and safeguards as other bodies, and I see no reason to extend them.'

## Companies House

Answering questions on plans to move part of Companies House out of London, Sir Geoffrey Howe said: 'I have received representations from a number of financial and other institutions, and I am meeting a group of users under the aegis of the Bank of England to discuss these representations.

'The decision to move some of the work of Companies House out of London was taken because unless this were done it would not be possible to continue to provide a satisfactory service beyond the next two years.

'Extensive facilities for searches will be maintained in London and the final result will be an improvement in efficiency for almost all users.'

## European aircraft industry

A statement was asked for on talks with French and West German Transport Ministers on the future of the European aircraft industry. Mr. Heseltine answered: 'I met M. Guena, the French Minister for Transport, and Dr. Friderichs, the German Minister for the Economy in Paris on October 29 for an informal and confidential exchange of views on the opportunities open to the European aircraft industry.'

## Jute imports

A question was put as to whether the United Kingdom intended to impose tariffs on manufactured jute imports from India and Bangladesh on January 1, 1974. Sir Geoffrey Howe replied: 'The Community is discussing an Indian request which we support, for the maintenance by the new member states of existing duty-free entry for Indian and Bangladesh jute goods after this year.'

## Newsprint shortage

Mr. Grant was asked to make a statement on the world wide shortage of newsprint, with particular reference to the situation in the United Kingdom, and the arrangements made to help newspapers in difficulty. He said: 'Since the current shortage of newsprint is world-wide the scope for short term action is limited. However, I understand that arrangements made by the newspaper industry to ensure that newspapers receive essential supplies are continuing to work satisfactorily. We shall keep the position under review in the light of continuing discussions with the newsprint producers and the newspaper publishers.'

## Price Commission

Sir Geoffrey Howe was asked if he would arrange to publish regular lists of price increases approved by the Price Commission. He said: 'As I told the House on October 17, publication of price increases is the responsibility in Stage 3 of the firms who implement them. The Commission will continue to give information in their quarterly report about Category I notifications and what has happened to them.'

## Registration of engineers

Mr. Heseltine was questioned on his discussions with the Council of Engineering Institutions about the registration of engineers. He said: 'I have agreed with the Council of Engineering Institutions that, in the context of EEC, mutual recognition will need to be extended to suitably qualified engineers, whether they are in membership of institutions inside or outside the CEI. There is still one major issue to be resolved and I shall be continuing discussions to that end.'

## Service charges

A Member asked if legislation would be introduced making it illegal for firms to impose service charges for service which were not in fact supplied. Mr. Emery answered that remedies were already provided by the Civil law for consumers paying for a service without receiving it. 'The Law Commissions are studying the problems which arise from the use of exclusion

*(continued on next page)*

## PARLIAMENT
*continued*

clauses which restrict the seller's contractual liability,' said Mr. Emery.

### Consumer advice centres

Mr. Emery was asked to estimate the manpower requirements for the proposed consumer advice centres and the number of centres needed; what training facilities would be made available to service the centres; and what financial support would be provided in the form of grants or loans to local authorities. Mr. Emery said: 'I am considering these matters in the light of consultations with the bodies concerned with the provision of consumer advice and the discussions I shall be having shortly with them and with local authority representatives.'

### Consumer durables

A Member asked what was the value of imports of the following items in the latest available quarter, and what was the value in the equivalent quarters of 1970, 1971 and 1972 for: television receivers (all types), portable radios, radiograms, electric refrigerators (domestic), and electric washing machines (domestic). Sir Geoffrey Howe gave the following information:

£ thousands (cif)

| | 1970 3rd qtr. | 1971 3rd qtr. | 1972 3rd qtr. | 1973 3rd qtr. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Television receivers | 1,917 | 4,480 | 11,215 | 30,929 |
| Domestic or portable radio receivers, battery operated (including mains/battery operated) | 1,777 | 3,280 | 3,950 | 6,352 |
| Radiograms | 372 | 425 | 1,318 | 1,721 |
| Domestic electric refrigerators | 2,386 | 3,120 | 3,496 | 7,160 |
| Domestic electric washing machines | 635 | 1,064 | 1,817 | 5,956 |

Note: Parts are excluded throughout.

In answer to a question on the percentage of imports of machinery comprised of consumer durables, and of productive machinery for manufacturing industry, in the latest quarter for which figures are available, and for the equivalent quarters in 1970, 1971 and 1972, Sir Geoffrey said that it was estimated that imports of consumer durables accounted for 4 per cent, 6 per cent, 9 per cent and 12 per cent of imports of machinery (Divisions 71 and 72 of the Standard International Trade Classification (Revised)) in the third quarters of 1970, 1971, 1972 and 1973, respectively. Of the remainder it was not possible to say how much was for manufacturing industry.

### Rights of entry

Several questions were put on powers of entry to private property by DTI officers under the Mines and Quarries Acts of 1954 and 1969, the Gasworks (Clauses) Act 1849, the Requisition of Land and War Works Act 1948, the Pipeline Act 1962, the Iron and Steel Act 1967, and the Boiler Explosion Act 1882. Mr. Emery answered: 'The Iron and Steel Act 1967, no longer affords powers of entry to my Agents and the powers originally contained in the Gasworks (Clauses) Act 1846 have been subsumed into the Gas Act 1972. This matter has been closely reviewed and I am satisfied that the powers of entry afforded by statute to my Officers are necessary for the public interest and for public safety.'

### UK trade

The following information was given by Sir Geoffrey Howe when asked to publish a table showing the percentage rate of change in the volume of UK exports and imports, respectively, between each of the first three quarters in 1973.

| | Percentage change over previous quarter* | |
|---|---|---|
| | Exports | Imports |
| 1973 | | |
| 2nd quarter | +3.0 | −0.5 |
| 3rd quarter | +3.1 | +2.9 |

* On a seasonally adjusted, balance of payments basis.

Sir Geoffrey was also asked to institute an inquiry into the extent to which UK trade statistics were currently inflated in both directions by the propensity of UK manufacturers to export goods required for the home market which had subsequently to be reimported, in order to take advantage of the exemption of export sales from margin control under the Government's inflation legislation. 'I do not think that a general inquiry into the trade statistics would be practicable or helpful,' he answered. 'I am aware of allegations of trading distortions in certain sectors. At present, I have no reason to believe these to be widespread. But I shall be glad to consider specific evidence and I am already looking into the special case of steel.'

Figures were requested showing the three-monthly moving average of the volume and value of finished goods imports, at an annual rate, for each of the months in 1973 to date, showing in each case the proportion of total UK imports accounted for by imports of finished goods. Sir Geoffrey gave the following information:

| | Imports of manufactured goods (SITC (R) Sections 5 to 8) | | Imports of finished manufactures (SITC (R) Sections 7 and 8) | | Volume index numbers imports of manufactured goods*† (SITC (R) Sections 5 to 8) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 3 months moving average at an annual rate £ million* (cif) | Percentage of total imports | 3 months moving average at an annual rate £ million* (cif) | Percentage of total imports | 3 months moving average 1970 = 100 |
| 1973 | | | | | |
| Jan. | 7,292 | 57.0 | 3,773 | 29.5 | 150.8 |
| Feb. | 7,325 | 56.7 | 3,833 | 29.7 | 150.5 |
| Mar. | 7,639 | 56.1 | 3,998 | 29.4 | 156.0 |
| Apr. | 7,739 | 55.8 | 4,061 | 29.3 | 153.4 |
| May | 8,184 | 56.1 | 4,260 | 29.2 | 156.5 |
| June | 8,302 | 56.0 | 4,297 | 29.0 | 155.4 |
| July | 8,676 | 56.5 | 4,494 | 29.3 | 159.9 |
| Aug. | 8,834 | 55.9 | 4,614 | 29.2 | 161.5 |
| Sept. | 9,215 | 56.1 | 4,860 | 29.6 | 164.1 |

* Seasonally adjusted; average of month shown and two preceding months.
† Volume indices for finished manufactures are not available.

### Packaging

Mr. Grant was asked if the Secretary of State would convene a conference of manufacturers to discuss how the packaging of goods could be reduced and ways and means of treating discarded packaging with a view to recovering some of the dwindling resources of basic raw materials. Mr. Grant said: 'Questions relating to the packaging of goods and to the recycling of discarded packaging materials are being considered by my Department and the Department of the Environment. The Government has been associated with studies by the industries concerned into the use and disposal of metal, plastics and glass containers; and we are in close touch with the users, collectors and local authorities so far as paper and board are concerned. I do not think at present that a conference along the lines suggested is necessary, but I will bear the suggestion in mind.'

### Oxley Industries Ltd.

A Member asked if the grant of £900,000 made to Oxley Industries Ltd. to acquire a Liverpool printing works was publicly offered to all other potential purchasers. Mr. Grant replied: 'The liquidator of a Liverpool printing and bookbinding company has made arrangements with Oxley to enable employment to continue. As part of these arrangements, which include substantial backing from the private sector, a loan of £450,000 is being made available under the Industry Act 1972. The company's management, the liquidator and all concerned were aware that any firm which was interested in acquiring the business would be considered for help under the Industry Act. Without this assistance some 300 jobs would have been lost in an area where the unemployment rate exceeds 5 per cent.'

### Norton Villiers Triumph Ltd.

A suggestion was made that action should be taken designed to maintain the Triumph motor cycle works at Meriden as a viable unit in the interests of employment and exports, and in the light of the £4.8 million loan of public money to the Norton Villiers Triumph Company. 'No Sir,' replied Mr. Grant. 'If Norton Villiers Triumph Ltd. is to be strong and competitive—and this was the objective of the Government's investment of £4.872 million—it is necessary for the company to rationalise its production of motor cycles. It is for the company to decide how and where its plans should be put into effect and I have no reason to question its decision.'

Mr. Grant was then asked if he was satisfied with the efficacy of the Government grant of £4.8 million to Norton-Villiers Triumph in the promotion of British motor cycle exports, and replied: 'I remain of the view that the creation of Norton Villliers Triumph Ltd., in which the Government has invested £4.872 million, provides the best chance of creating a strong and competitive motor cycle industry in this country and therefore of maintaining and expanding exports.'

### British Steel Corporation

Referring to national and international steel shortages, a Member asked if alterations would be proposed in the Government's steel strategy as outlined in the 1973 White Paper. Mr. Walker answered that the British Steel Corporation's development strategy, as outlined in the White Paper (Cmnd 5226), provides for a continuing planning process with flexibility to meet market and other changes.

Mr. Walker was also asked to direct the British Steel Corporation to ensure that steel in short supply should be rationed, with particular regards to the needs of long-established customers. He replied: 'I have recently discussed the general pattern of steel shortages with the BSC, CBI and steel producers and consumers. I am confident that the BSC is allocating the available supply as fairly as possible.'

Answering a question on recent communications with the management of the British Steel Corporation, and the European Commission, respectively, regarding the pricing policies of the Corporation; Mr. Walker said: 'The Corporation's pricing policy is its own responsibility, although prices have been among the topics covered by the discussions which the Corporation has with the Government on matters of mutual concern. I have not discussed the Corporation's pricing policy with the European Commission, but the Commission were informed in advance of the increases decided upon by the Corporation.'

## EEC policy to steel industry

Mr. Boardman was asked if he would publish details of the EEC's latest policy as applied to re-adoption assistance to ease the personal and financial problems of those made redundant in the steel industry. He answered: 'Article 56 of the Treaty of Paris sets out the general conditions under which aid from Community funds can be provided to help redundant and redeployed steelworkers and specifies the forms of benefit which may be paid.

'As stated in my reply to my hon Friend the Member for Cheadle on November 2, the Government have concluded an agreement with the European Commission under which such help will be afforded to steelworkers in the United Kingdom who qualify under Article 56 and regulations enabling these benefits to be paid will be laid before Parliament in due course.'

## Atomic Energy Authority

'Royalties are payable to the Atomic Energy Authority in respect of two Magnox power stations built overseas,' said Mr. Emery in reply to a question. 'A levy is also charged on fuel supplied for the Magnox stations built for the UK Electricity Generating Boards, for the two overseas stations and for the stations at Calder Hall and Chapelcross owned by British Nuclear Fuels Ltd. In addition the Authority receive payments in respect of patents and licences arising from their research and development activities. The total value of royalties received in 1972/73 was £721,000.'

## Nuclear energy

A Member asked how long the steam generating heavy water reactor, as completed at Winfrith, had been in operation and with what results; and for information as to the further use of this prototype by the Central Electricity Generating Board. Mr. Emery answered that the steam generating heavy water prototype reactor at Winfrith had been in operation since 1967 and to date had produced a total of 2,250 million units of electricity.

He continued: 'The operating preformance of the reactor has been good. As well as acting as a power producer it has served as an experimental facility to provide irradiation and engineering information for development of a commercial version of the reactor.

'The Atomic Energy Authority envisage that the Central Electricity Generating Board will continue to purchase electricity from the reactor in the foreseeable future.'

## Radioactive waste

Details were requested of all measures being taken to evaluate whether present methods of disposal for nuclear waste and discarded nuclear equipment were completely safe and secure for an unlimited period of time. Mr. Emery answered: 'The bulk of radioactive waste which arises from nuclear power programme in this country is stored at Windscale in special facilities. These facilities are built to exceptionally high standards of integrity and the relatively small volume of waste can be kept for as long as is necessary without hazard to the public in any foreseeable circumstances. These and other waste stores at licensed nuclear sites are subject to the approval of my Nuclear Installations Inspectorate who ensure that the very highest standards of safety are maintained. Nevertheless research and development work is being pushed forward with the object of converting the wastes to forms which have the greatest resistance to dispersal. For example, a process is now under development to incorporate the high level liquid wastes into an insoluble glass which can be more conveniently stored, and over long periods of time will require minimum surveillance. Processes for doing this have already been demonstrated on an experimental scale and effort is now concentrated on designing a safe and efficient full-scale plant. There is active international collaboration in this area under the sponsorship of the International Atomic Energy Agency and other bodies in which the United Kingdom is playing a full part.'

## Rolls Royce (1971) Ltd.

In reply to a question on Government plans for denationalising Rolls Royce (1971) Ltd., Mr. Heseltine said that the Government intended to seek the introduction of private capital into Rolls Royce (1971) Ltd. as soon as circumstances permitted but did not expect this to be in the immediate future.

## RB 211 engines

'How many RB 211 engines have now been delivered to Lockheed and to airline customers, respectively,' asked a Member, 'and how many of these have been the improved 22 version?' Mr. Onslow said that, up to November 1, 1973, 191 RB 211 engines had been delivered to Lockheed and 56 to airline customers: 247 in all. Of these 142 were to the interim RB211-22C standard and 105 to the full RB211-22B standard.

## Anglo-Chinese air link

An inquiry was made as to progress by the DTI in discussions with the Chinese People's Republic to establish direct civil aviation links between Heathrow and Peking; and when it was estimated that services would begin. Mr. Onslow answered: 'An Air Services Agreement was initiated in Peking on June 13, 1973. This provides for a direct trunk route between London and Peking. We hope that the Agreement will be signed soon, so that when the necessary practical arrangements have been completed services can then begin.'

## British Airways Board

Mr. Onslow was aked what amount British Airways had paid Her Majesty's Government on its public dividend capital; and what subsidies it received from the Government. He said: 'The British Airways Board made a payment of £4,375,000 million in respect of the financial year 1972/73, its first year of operations. The Board receives no subsidy from the Government.'

In answer to another question, on the profit made by British Airways in 1972/73 in its first year of operation; and how this compared with the gross and net profit figures for the previous year's combined BOAC and BEA totals, Mr. Onslow said: 'In 1972/73 the British Airways Board's profit before interest, taxation and extraordinary items was £33.9 million; profit after interest, taxation and extraordinary items was £5.2 million. In 1971/72 the combined BOAC and BEA figure for profit before interest, taxation and extraordinary items was £13.2 million; after interest, taxation and extraordinary items there was a loss of £0.3 million.'

## Night flights

A Member suggested a total ban on all night flights landing and taking-off from Heathrow between 11 p.m. and 7 a.m. in summer and 9 p.m. and 7 a.m. in winter. 'A total ban on night flights would present very great difficulties,' answered Mr. Onslow. 'But I am now considering means of securing a further reduction in night disturbance next year, and I hope to make an announcement shortly.'

## Concorde

A statement on Concorde was asked for. Mr. Heseltine said: 'As I informed the House on June 22, the manufacturers have been studying possible future improvements, and the associated production programmes. The studies have just been received, and I and my French colleague will review the position again when their implications have been fully analysed and presented to us.

'Meanwhile, development is proceeding with the aim of introducing Concorde into service at the earliest practicable date, and we are continuing to support the manufacturers in their sales activities.'

Mr. Heseltine was also asked when the first Concorde aircraft was due to enter commercial service; what would then be the estimated total cost of research, development and production; and what further expenditure was estimated on the proposed improvements of re-designed wings, bigger fuel tanks and other changes in its aerodynamics? He answered: 'I understand that British Airways are planning to start Concorde services in the second half of 1975. The current development estimate at January 1973 prices is £1,065 million. Expenditure on production will depend upon the numbers of aircraft under manufacture and orders.

'The manufacturers' studies on possible improvements have only just been submitted. I cannot speculate about their costs until they have been fully examined, and considered by my French colleague and myself.'

## Aircraft noise

Mr. Heseltime was asked how many householders living in the inner area around London-Heathrow and London-Gatwick airports had been allotted 100 per cent noise insulation grants; and whether he would give the number of persons living outside that area but close to the airports who have applied for the 75 per cent grant. He answered that, up to September 30, 1973, the number of 100 per cent grants approved at Heathrow was 850; at Gatwick 57. At Heathrow 2,403 applications were made for 75 per cent grants; at Gatwick 260. In addition 8,127 grants were paid at Heathrow before September 14, 1972 at the old rate of 60 per cent.

Another question was on progress being made in research into quieter aeroplane engines. Mr. Heseltine said: 'The results of many years of Government support for such general research in collaboration with industry and Universities, have already contributed to the quieter engines now in or approaching service such as the RB211 and the M45H. Current measures cover extensive additional research into methods for reducing aeroengine noise; these include Government contributions towards the costs of two major programmes in industry: one aimed at demonstrating the possibility of further reductions in noise levels of the RB211, and the other at demonstrating the practicability of developing an ultra-quiet engine based on the M45.'

## IMEG Report

Mr. Grant said, in reply to a question on the recommendations of the IMEG Report, that action had been taken or was in hand across the whole range of subjects covered.

## 'Humber Mariner'

A Member inquired if the DTI had completed its preliminary inquiry into the explosion on board the barge *Humber Mariner* on the River Hull. Mr. Onslow answered: 'Yes. The explosion was due to the ignition of an explosive mixture of petroleum vapour and air in the engine room. The extent of the damage, and the death of the only witness made it impossible to say with certainty how the petroleum vapour came to be present or by what source it was ignited, and I do not therefore propose to order a formal investigation. This tragic occurrence emphasises

(*continued on next page*)

## PARLIAMENT
*continued*

the need for the utmost care in ensuring that petroleum vapour is not allowed to accumulate in a confined space, where it may be exposed to sparks or other naked lights.'

### 'Conoco Britannia'

In answer to questions on the cost of clearing up the spillage of oil from the Liberian tanker *Conoco Britannia* in the Humber, Mr. Onslow replied: 'About £27,000, of which £23,500 was incurred by my Department and £3,500 by Local Authorities. The insurers of the vessel have been notified, in accordance with the Tanker Owners' Voluntary Agreement concerning Liability for Oil Pollution, of our intention to claim reimbursement.'

## TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 20

### Textile industry

Replying to a question on efforts being made to encourage textile manufacturers to take advantage of the recent grants announced by the Government, Mr. Grant said: 'I assume that the Hon. Member has in mind the scheme of support for the wool textile industry under the Industry Act, which my right hon Friend the Minister for Industrial Development announced on July 19, 1973.

'Details of the scheme were sent to all firms in the industry by the Economic Development Committee for the Wool Textiles Industry immediately after it was announced, my right hon Friend held a press conference immediately after the statement in the House and he has since visited the West Riding and discussed the scheme with representatives of the industry and with the press. By October 31, 1973 application forms had been requested by 115 firms.'

Mr. Grant was also asked to make a statement on the textile industries with reference to the Atkins Report, and give some indication of the progress being made. He said: 'The Atkins Report, published in 1969, examined the strategic future of the wool textile industry and industry up to the mid-seventies.

'The scheme of assistance to that industry under Section 8 of the Industry Act which my right hon Friend the Minister for Industrial Development announced on July 19, 1973 is aimed at further encouraging the developments which have taken place since the Atkins Report was published.'

### Steel

A question was asked on plans for the reorganisation of the nationalised steel industry 'in view of their failure to supply sections and sizes of steel to industry.' Mr. Boardman, replying, said: 'The British Steel Corporation's ten year development strategy published last February (Cmnd 5226) is designed to meet British industry's requirements for steel, as regards both quantity and quality. The present shortage is a worldwide problem caused by the very rapid cyclical growth in demand, and is not a reason for changing the Corporation's organisation or development plans.'

### Industrial development

Mr. Grant answered questions on industrial development in Wales, the Yorkshire and Humberside region and Shotton.

### Shipping masters

Mr. Onslow was questioned about the number of Shipping Masters employed by the DTI; and the totals for the last five years broken down into districts. He answered: 'The number of Mercantile Marine Superintendents (often referred to as Shipping Masters) employed by the Department is 55. The further information requested is given in the following table:'

| District | 1968 | 1969 | 1970 | 1971 | 1972 | 1973 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| London | 25 | 21 | 22 | 21 | 21 | 11 |
| Southern | 23 | 19 | 20 | 20 | 21 | 18 |
| NW England and Northern Ireland | 25 | 20 | 19 | 19 | 17 | 10 |
| NE Coast and Scotland | 29 | 25 | 23 | 23 | 23 | 16 |
| TOTALS | 102 | 85 | 84 | 83 | 82 | 55 |

'In addition some Customs and Excise Officials hold appointments as Superintendents.

Since January 1, 1973, Superintendents have been appointed under Section 81 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1970 and are no longer required to witness on board ship the signing on and signing off of crews: this accounts for the marked reduction in the 1973 figures.'

### Manufactured goods

The following figures were provided by Sir Geoffrey Howe in reply to a question about the level of, respectively, imports and exports of manufactured goods as a percentage of gross domestic product at factor cost for each year since 1950 in the case, respectively of the UK, the USA, Japan, Sweden and each of the EEC countries.

| | United Kingdom | | USA | | Japan | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Exports % | Imports % | Exports % | Imports % | Exports % | Imports % |
| 1950 | 16.6 | 5.0 | | | | |
| 1951 | 17.5 | 6.0 | 2.9 | 1.0 | | |
| 1952 | 15.7 | 5.6 | 3.0 | 1.1 | 6.8 | 1.2 |
| 1953 | 14.2 | 4.3 | 3.3 | 1.1 | | |
| 1954 | 14.3 | 4.6 | 3.0 | 1.0 | 7.0 | 1.6 |
| 1955 | 14.4 | 5.8 | 2.3 | 1.1 | 8.0 | 1.4 |
| 1956 | 14.7 | 5.4 | 2.5 | 1.2 | 8.8 | 2.1 |
| 1957 | 14.6 | 5.3 | 2.7 | 1.2 | 9.0 | 3.5 |
| 1958 | 13.7 | 4.9 | 2.4 | 1.2 | 8.6 | 2.2 |
| 1959 | 13.8 | 5.3 | 2.2 | 1.5 | 9.3 | 2.4 |
| 1960 | 13.8 | 6.7 | 2.4 | 1.4 | 9.1 | 2.5 |
| 1961 | 13.5 | 6.3 | 2.4 | 1.3 | 7.7 | 2.9 |
| 1962 | 13.2 | 6.2 | 2.3 | 1.4 | 8.0 | 2.7 |
| 1963 | 13.3 | 6.4 | 2.3 | 1.5 | 7.8 | 2.6 |
| 1964 | 13.0 | 7.5 | 2.6 | 1.6 | 8.1 | 2.7 |
| 1965 | 13.3 | 7.3 | 2.7 | 1.8 | 9.4 | 2.3 |
| 1966 | 13.5 | 7.6 | 2.7 | 2.1 | 9.5 | 2.2 |
| 1967 | 12.7 | 8.2 | 2.8 | 2.1 | 8.6 | 2.7 |
| 1968 | 14.8 | 10.3 | 2.9 | 2.6 | 9.0 | 2.6 |
| 1969 | 16.4 | 10.8 | 3.0 | 2.7 | 9.5 | 2.8 |
| 1970 | 16.0 | 10.7 | 3.2 | 2.9 | 9.8 | 3.0 |
| 1971 | 16.3 | 10.4 | 3.1 | 3.2 | 10.8 | 2.6 |
| 1972 | 15.5 | 11.4 | 3.1 p | 3.6 p | | |

p = provisional

| | Sweden* | | Belgium/Lux. | | Denmark | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Exports % | Imports % | Exports % | Imports % | Exports % | Imports % |
| 1950 | 10.8 | 11.6 | | | | |
| 1951 | 12.8 | 14.5 | | | 6.5 | 16.8 |
| 1952 | 11.1 | 12.8 | | | 6.2 | 15.3 |
| 1953 | 9.8 | 12.1 | 22.9 | 14.5 | 5.7 | 15.8 |
| 1954 | 10.5 | 13.4 | 22.7 | 14.9 | 6.2 | 17.0 |
| 1955 | 10.6 | 13.7 | 25.4 | 16.4 | 7.5 | 15.9 |
| 1956 | 11.5 | 13.7 | 27.9 | 18.2 | 8.1 | 16.8 |
| 1957 | 12.2 | 14.5 | 26.3 | 17.6 | 8.4 | 17.7 |
| 1958 | 12.3 | 14.2 | 25.2 | 16.9 | 9.1 | 17.3 |
| 1959 | 12.4 | 14.0 | 26.9 | 18.8 | 9.3 | 19.5 |
| 1960 | 12.7 | 14.8 | 28.9 | 21.1 | 10.2 | 21.1 |
| 1961 | 13.1 | 13.9 | 27.5 | 21.2 | 9.8 | 20.5 |
| 1962 | 13.6 | 14.1 | 29.3 | 22.7 | 9.6 | 20.7 |
| 1963 | 13.8 | 14.2 | 30.0 | 24.1 | 10.8 | 19.3 |
| 1964 | 14.2 | 14.7 | 31.6 | 25.1 | 10.9 | 21.4 |
| 1965 | 14.2 | 15.9 | 33.3 | 25.0 | 11.0 | 21.2 |
| 1966 | 14.6 | 15.0 | 33.6 | 27.7 | 10.8 | 20.9 |
| 1967 | 14.7 | 14.7 | 32.4 | 25.8 | 11.1 | 20.9 |
| 1968 | 15.2 | 15.0 | 35.1 | 27.9 | 12.2 | 21.3 |
| 1969 | 16.4 | 16.5 | 38.7 | 31.0 | 13.2 | 23.1 |
| 1970 | 17.8 | 17.5 | 40.7 | 31.9 | 13.5 | 23.9 |
| 1971 | 18.8 | 16.6 | 37.8 | 32.6 | 13.4 | 21.9 |

* See footnote in next column.

| | France | | German F.R. | | Ireland | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Exports % | Imports % | Exports % | Imports % | Exports % | Imports % |
| 1950 | 8.0 | 3.0 | 7.2 | 2.6 | 1.5 | 24.6 |
| 1951 | 9.3 | 3.4 | 11.4 | 2.5 | 2.2 | 28.8 |
| 1952 | 7.3 | 2.9 | 12.0 | 2.9 | 1.5 | 20.5 |
| 1953 | 6.8 | 2.5 | 12.3 | 3.0 | 1.7 | 19.7 |
| 1954 | 7.0 | 2.6 | 13.8 | 3.8 | 2.5 | 21.5 |
| 1955 | 7.6 | 3.2 | 14.2 | 4.7 | 2.9 | 22.2 |
| 1956 | 6.5 | 3.5 | 15.5 | 4.7 | 2.7 | 20.6 |
| 1957 | 7.0 | 3.6 | 16.8 | 5.0 | 3.6 | 18.8 |
| 1958 | 7.3 | 3.4 | 16.3 | 5.7 | 3.6 | 20.9 |
| 1959 | 8.9 | 3.5 | 16.9 | 6.8 | 4.5 | 20.9 |
| 1960 | 9.7 | 4.6 | 16.3 | 7.2 | 5.1 | 21.5 |
| 1961 | 9.2 | 4.9 | 15.6 | 6.5 | 5.1 | 23.1 |
| 1962 | 8.5 | 5.4 | 15.1 | 6.7 | 5.3 | 23.5 |
| 1963 | 8.2 | 5.7 | 15.5 | 6.7 | 5.9 | 24.8 |
| 1964 | 8.2 | 6.3 | 15.7 | 7.3 | 6.8 | 26.1 |
| 1965 | 8.7 | 6.2 | 15.8 | 8.3 | 6.8 | 26.2 |
| 1966 | 8.7 | 7.0 | 16.8 | 8.4 | 7.7 | 25.4 |
| 1967 | 8.5 | 7.0 | 18.1 | 7.9 | 8.1 | 24.3 |
| 1968 | 8.5 | 7.6 | 18.8 | 8.9 | 9.8 | 28.1 |
| 1969 | 9.0 | 8.9 | 19.7 | 10.4 | 10.0 | 32.0 |
| 1970 | 10.6 | 9.3 | 18.5 | 10.5 | 11.0 | 32.0 |
| 1971 | 10.7 | 9.4 | 18.3 | 10.4 | 11.6 | 31.6 |
| 1972 | | | 18.3 p | 10.5 p | 13.5 p | 31.1 p |

p = provisional

| | Italy | | Netherlands | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Exports % | Imports % | Exports % | Imports % |
| 1950 | | | 13.9 | 22.3 |
| 1951 | 7.4 | 3.2 | 18.4 | 23.3 |
| 1952 | 5.3 | 4.0 | 18.7 | 19.1 |
| 1953 | 4.8 | 4.2 | 18.5 | 20.1 |
| 1954 | 4.9 | 4.2 | 18.3 | 21.7 |
| 1955 | 5.3 | 4.1 | 18.4 | 23.0 |
| 1956 | 5.9 | 4.3 | 17.7 | 24.8 |
| 1957 | 6.5 | 4.5 | 17.6 | 24.9 |
| 1958 | 6.4 | 3.8 | 18.9 | 21.7 |
| 1959 | 7.1 | 4.2 | 20.7 | 23.5 |
| 1960 | 8.7 | 6.1 | 20.7 | 25.3 |
| 1961 | 9.2 | 6.8 | 20.5 | 26.5 |
| 1962 | 9.1 | 7.5 | 20.3 | 26.0 |
| 1963 | 8.8 | 8.1 | 20.7 | 27.6 |
| 1964 | 9.6 | 6.7 | 21.6 | 27.8 |
| 1965 | 10.8 | 5.6 | 21.2 | 27.1 |
| 1966 | 11.3 | 6.3 | 21.4 | 27.6 |
| 1967 | 11.3 | 6.8 | 20.7 | 25.8 |
| 1968 | 12.5 | 6.8 | 21.6 | 26.4 |
| 1969 | 13.2 | 8.1 | 23.0 | 27.8 |
| 1970 | 13.4 | 9.2 | 23.6 | 30.6 |
| 1971 | 13.7 | 8.4 | 24.3 | 30.6 |
| 1972 | | | 25.7 p | 28.3 p |

* Figures for Sweden since 1960 have been revised, and are not strictly comparable with earlier years.
p = provisional.

Sources
GDP figures: OECD 'National Accounts' Year Books and 'Economic Surveys' for each country.
Trade figures: OECD Series B and United Nations Commodity Trade Statistics.

## WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 21

### Life insurance schemes

In answer to a question on the cost of acquiring all life insurance schemes, Sir Geoffrey Howe said: 'The information is not readily available. Life assurance is provided by proprietary insurance companies, both specialist and composite, by mutual insurance companies and by Friendly Societies and by Industrial and Provident Societies. The value of the share capital in the proprietary companies varies from day to day and for composites that part of the value relating to life assurance would have to be computed. Mutuals have no share capital, however, and belong entirely to the policyholders, so that it is not clear how the business could be acquired. Friendly Societies and Industrial and Provident Societies also present problems of valuation and could not be acquired without dispossession of members.'

### Fuel cells

Mr. Emery told a Member who asked what progress was being made under DTI sponsor-

ship of a chemical fuel cell with commercial prospects, that the prospects for fuel cells were kept under review by the Government and the nationalised industries in the light of the changing energy scene and technological developments in other countries, but at present he was advised that the prospects did not warrant the Secretary of State sponsoring further work.

## North Sea oil

Estimates were asked for of annual production of oil from the North Sea fields over the likely period of their main production. Mr. Boardman said that the latest forecast of production from the UK Sector of the Continental Shelf was 70-100 million tons in 1980. 'I cannot accurately assess the timing of the build-up to this level; neither can I make any estimate of production after 1980, since this will depend to a large extent on fields not yet discovered,' he said.

## Japanese television sets

Mr. Grant was asked to what extent, and by what means, the importation of Japanese colour television sets during 1974 would be restrained. He said: 'We are in close touch with British manufacturers of TV sets about their exchanges with Japanese manufacturers concerning likely market developments in 1974. In the light of these exchanges, I hope that it will not now be necessary to consider taking any action to restrain imports from Japan next year.'

## Japanese yarn

Information was asked for on the amount of yarn imported from Japan and other nations in 1972-73; and what effect this would have on the woollen textile trade in the Yorkshire and Humberside Region. Mr. Grant gave the following figures:

| | Japan tonnes | Rest of world tonnes |
|---|---|---|
| 1972 | 7,257 | 105,909 |
| Jan./Sept. 1973 | 1,206 | 92,342 |

*Note:* The bulk of the above imports relate to synthetic fibres, a small proportion only being wool or cotton.

'The wool textile industry is continuing to find its products in strong demand and there are no indications that imports of wool yarns are having an adverse effect,' he said.

## Exports of meat

Figures were provided by Sir Geoffrey Howe in reply to a question on the quantities of meat exported from England, Scotland and Wales in aggregate, on the hook and on the hoof for each of the last 12 months coming within the classification of cattle, sheep, pigs and deer.

UNITED KINGDOM EXPORTS*

Live animals.** Meat, fresh, chilled or frozen.

| | Fat cattle No. of animals | Sheep, other than for breeding No. of animals | Pigs (for all purposes) No. of animals | Bovine meat tons | Meat of sheep tons | Pig meat tons |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1972 October | 12,745 | 23,205 | 2,566 | 6,648 | 1,517 | 391 |
| November | 13,904 | 28,909 | 3,340 | 6,978 | 1,369 | 266 |
| December | 9,406 | 22,641 | 2,815 | 5,540 | 2,054 | 90 |
| 1973 January | 7,751 | 27,660 | 1,809 | 4,091 | 2,845 | 164 |
| February | 2,793 | 14,955 | 2,331 | 3,671 | 2,539 | 93 |
| March | 8,460 | 1,904 | 3,021 | 4,195 | 3,069 | 154 |
| April | 7,851 | 1,673 | 2,556 | 6,522 | 2,306 | 134 |
| May | 14,306 | 4,280 | 2,626 | 5,718 | 1,412 | 812 |
| June | 8,495 | 6,572 | 2,714 | 5,102 | 1,462 | 469 |
| July | 5,193 | 5,725 | 2,946 | 6,499 | 1,888 | 332 |
| August | 7,875 | 14,093 | 8,766 | 7,035 | 2,022 | 969 |
| September | 5,014 | 14,752 | 10,310 | 6,700 | 2,326 | 1,816 |

* Includes exports from Nothern Ireland.

** Live animals for slaughter are not consistently distinguished in the overseas trade statistics; the headings given are the nearest to this category. The issue of licences for the export of live sheep for slaughter, except from Northern Ireland to the Irish Republic, was suspended from February 1, 1973 and for cattle and pigs from July 13, 1973.

## Ball-bearing industry

A Member wanted to know the total amount of aid given to the British ball-bearing industry in the past two years; under what legislation it had been provided and for what projects; and how much had been estimated for the next financial year. Mr. Grant answered: 'Companies in the ball-bearing industry in the assisted areas, as in other industries, are eligible for and some have received assistance under the Local Employment Acts and Section 7 of the Industry Act 1972. Some may also have received assistance under Part I of the Industry Act 1972. Information on the total amount of aid given to this industry is not readily available.

'Expenditure under these headings in the next financial year will be related to the number of eligible applications put forward by firms in the industry.'

| District | 1969 General Inspections (a) | 1969 Surveys for Statutory Certificates (b) | 1970 General Inspections (a) | 1970 Surveys for Statutory Certificates (b) | 1971 General Inspections (a) | 1971 Surveys for Statutory Certificates (b) | 1972 General Inspections (a) | 1972 Surveys for Statutory Certificates (b) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bristol Channel | 319 | 475 | 491 | 465 | 401 | 434 | 532 | 441 |
| East of England | 375 | 502 | 384 | 553 | 594 | 487 | 487 | 469 |
| East of Scotland | 888 | 319 | 938 | 256 | 1,080 | 210 | 694 | 245 |
| Liverpool | 322 | 931 | 361 | 937 | 210 | 986 | 157 | 827 |
| London | 538 | 1,107 | 529 | 1,123 | 599 | 1,095 | 736 | 1,020 |
| North East of England | 1,321 | 664 | 1,265 | 737 | 785 | 536 | 538 | 486 |
| Northern Ireland | 267 | 134 | 320 | 172 | 258 | 118 | 249 | 108 |
| South and South West of England | 338 | 668 | 317 | 723 | 298 | 788 | 309 | 649 |
| West of Scotland | 360 | 439 | 311 | 434 | 413 | 394 | 363 | 350 |
| Total | 4,728 | 5,239 | 4,916 | 5,400 | 4,638 | 5,048 | 4,065 | 4,595 |

# THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 22

## Exports to Chile

Stating that British firms were having difficulties in exporting goods to Chile; a Member asked what action was proposed to assist them. Sir Geoffrey Howe said that he understood recent difficulties over the handling of Chilean cargoes in some British ports had been resolved. The DTI would give every possible assistance to British exporters within the limits set by Chile's economic position.

## Fuel policy

Mr. Walker was asked what talks he had had recently with the TUC on fuel policy. He replied that he and the Minister for Industry met members of the TUC Fuel and Power Industries Committee on July 16 to discuss a TUC document on Fuel and Power Policy. Since then there had been several useful meetings at official level to look at problems in more detail.

## Marine surveyors

Mr. Heseltine answered a question on the number of safety inspections conducted by the DTI's marine superintendents on British ships in each of the last four years. He said: 'Safety inspections are carried out by marine surveyors. The following table shows (a) the numbers of general inspections, including inspections of fishing vessels, and (b) the numbers of surveys carried out for the purposes of various statutory safety certificates. The volume of work represented by column (b) is almost seven times that represented by column (a). Although it has not been possible to exclude foreign ships, they represent a very small proportion of the total.'

## Industry Act

A Member asked for the amount of grants and loans made to the latest available date under the Industry Act. Mr. Grant, answering that the greater part of the payments under the Industry Act 1972 were for the benefit of the assisted areas, gave the following figures of payments:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Regional development grants under Part I (to October 26) | | £55 million |
| Selective financial assistance under Section 7 (to October 31) | Loans | £22.97 million |
| | Grants | £ 2.07 million |

Mr. Grant continued: 'In addition under Section 11 of the Act payments of construction grants up to October 31 amounted to £22 million.

'The amounts advanced to the clearing banks to the same date under Section 10 of the Act in connection with arrangements agreed with them for the financing of home shipbuilding amounted to £73.8 million.'

## Scales and weighing machines

Sir Geoffrey Howe was asked if legislation would be introduced to deal with the siting of scales and weighing machines in retail establishments, particularly supermarkets and similar stores, so that customers could check on prices and costs. Sir Geoffrey answered: 'Substantial powers already exist under S.33 of the Weights and Measures Act and I have no reason to doubt that they are conscientiously enforced by Inspectors of Weights and Measures. Whilst I have no evidence of a need for obtaining further powers for this purpose, I will consider this if convincing reasons for so doing are given me by the Hon. Member or by consumer interests.'

*(continued on next page)*

## PARLIAMENT
*continued*

### Imported foods

The value of imported foods from EFTA and the EEC was the subject of a question. Sir Geoffrey Howe gave the following information:

United Kingdom imports of food (SITC(R) Section O).

| | EFTA* £ million | EEC* £ million |
|---|---|---|
| 1970 | 62 | 533 |
| 1971 | 63 | 606 |
| 1972 | 70 | 652 |
| Jan/Sept 1973 | 61 | 684 |

* using the present composition of EFTA and EEC.

### DTI Information Officers

Asked why his department needed 156 Information Officers, Mr. Walker said: 'About half are engaged in design and other technical aspects of Overseas Trade Fairs and similar trade promotional activities overseas. The others are directly concerned with publicising the facilities and services provided by the Department for export promotion, regional development, and assistance and advice for small firms and with explaining the Department's policies and activities to the Press and the Public. The total current strength is 164.'

## FRIDAY NOVEMBER 23

### Companies House

Sir Geoffrey Howe told a Member who asked when he expected to begin and to complete the withdrawal of staff from Companies House in London, that the build-up of staff at Cardiff was expected to begin in the second half of 1975 and to be completed in about six months. The necessary staff would remain in London to serve the principal search facilities there.

### Industrial investment

In answer to a question on the latest figures of investment in industrial plant and machinery; and how they compared with those for June 1970, Mr. Grant said: 'Capital expenditure on plant and machinery in manufacturing, distributive and service industries (at 1970 prices seasonally adjusted) for the three years from June 1970 to June 1973 was £6,518 million. For the three years prior to June 1970 the figure was £6,079 million. For the second quarter of 1973 the figure was £543 million and for the same quarter in 1970 it was £577 million. Third quarter figures will be published on December 3. Further details were published in October 4 issue of *Trade and Industry*.'

Mr. Grant was also asked what had been the level of investment in industrial plant and machinery for each quarter since January 1970; and, for each quarter, what had been the percentage change compared to June 1970. He said that since the first quarter of 1970 the estimates of the volume of investment in plant and machinery (at 1970 prices seasonally adjusted) by manufacturing, distributive and service industries had been as follows:

| | £ million (1970 prices) | % change on 2nd quarter 1970 |
|---|---|---|
| 1970 1st qtr. | 559 | − 3 |
| 2nd qtr. | 577 | — |
| 3rd qtr. | 580 | + 1 |
| 4th qtr. | 582 | + 1 |
| 1971 1st qtr. | 557 | − 3 |
| 2nd qtr. | 548 | − 5 |
| 3rd qtr. | 553 | − 4 |
| 4th qtr. | 527 | − 9 |
| 1972 1st qtr. | 536 | − 7 |
| 2nd qtr. | 522 | −10 |
| 3rd qtr. | 507 | −12 |
| 4th qtr. | 512 | −11 |
| 1973 1st qtr. | 550 | − 5 |
| 2nd qtr. | 543 | − 6 |

In the first half of 1973 the volume of investment in plant and machinery was 7 per cent higher than in the second half of 1972.

### Coal miners' wages

A Member asked Mr. Boardman what was the increase in wages offered to miners under Phase 3; and what would be the difference between the minimum and average wage if the offer was accepted. Mr. Boardman said: 'Increased basic rates of £2.57 for underground workers and £2.30 for those on the surface, with ⅘ of those increases for juveniles under 18: shift allowances of 17p per hour for all men who work between 8 p.m. and 6 a.m.: improved holiday pay: an extra day's holiday on New Years Day and improved death, retirement and incapacity benefits under the Mineworkers Pensions Scheme. The Board are also ready to negotiate an efficiency payments scheme which could give up to one half of the increase allowed under the pay limit and a threshold agreement in accordance with the pay code. If the offer were accepted, the difference between the minimum and average wage would be about £6.40, assuming that in each case the same number of night hours is worked.'

### Petrol rationing

Mr. Emery told a Member who asked in the context of plans for petrol rationing, that a special allowance would be made for rural areas without public transport. 'In our contingency planning for petrol rationing living in a rural area where there is no means of travel other than by car would be one of the many qualifying factors taken into account in judging the need to provide people with supplementary petrol allowances.'

### Power stations

A question was asked on the number of planning consents granted to the Central Electricity Generating Board for coal burning, oil-fired and nuclear power stations, respectively. Mr. Emery said that outstanding consents or consents given since the beginning of 1968 under Section 2 of the Electric Lighting Act 1909 included the following stations:

| *Coal Burning* Location | Date of consent |
|---|---|
| *Coal Burning* | |
| West Burton B Notts | 23.8.73 |
| *Oil Fired* | |
| 1 Isle of Grain Kent | 29.10.69 |
| 2 Ince B Cheshire | 22.11.71 |
| 3 Killingholme Lincs | 16.6.72 |
| 4 Littlebrook D Kent | 19.7.72 |
| 5 Inswork Point Cornwall | 23.8.73 |
| *Nuclear* | |
| 1 Hartlepool Co Durham | 21.8.68 |
| 2 Sizewell B Suffolk | 29.10.69 |
| 3 Heysham Lancs | 29.10.69 |
| *Gas Turbines* | |
| 1 Watford | 21.7.71 |
| 2 Letchworth Herts | 21.7.71 |
| 3 Ocker Hill West Bromwich | 11.10.71 |
| 4 Leicester | 2.5.72 |
| 5 Bulls Bridge Hillingdon | 12.10.72 |
| 6 Roosecote Barrow in Furness | 9.11.72 |
| 7 Taylors Lane Brent | 12.12.72 |
| 8 Chadderton Lancs. | 21.5.73 |
| 9 Nechells Birmingham | 29.6.73 |
| 10 Cowes IOW | 2.7.73 |


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# The economy: selected indicators

Series expressed as index numbers and seasonally adjusted except where shown otherwise

| | Gross domestic product (average estimate) | Consumers expenditure | Fixed capital expenditure | | | Changes in stocks | | | | Balance of payments | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | Total | of which: Manufacturing industry | of which: Distributive and service industries | Total | of which: Manufacturing industry | of which: Wholesalers | of which: Retailers | Current balance | Visible balance | Invisible balance |
| | at 1970 prices | | at 1970 prices | | | at 1970 prices | | | | at current prices | | |
| Base of index | 1971 | 1970 | 1970 | 1970 | 1970 | | | | | | | |
| £m in base year | | 31,404 | 9,223 | 2,129 | 2,087 | series in £ million | | | | series in £ million | | |
| 1968 | 95 | 97 | 97 | 87 | 87 | 439 | 269 | 85 | 60 | −284 | −659 | 375 |
| 1969 | 97 | 98 | 98 | 93 | 92 | 416 | 320 | 42 | 13 | 445 | −143 | 588 |
| 1970 | 99 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 257 | 175 | 68 | 38 | 692 | −9 | 701 |
| 1971 | 100 | 103 | 101 | 92 | 101 | 19 | −218 | 52 | 21 | 1,061 | 285 | 776 |
| 1972 | 102 | 109 | 102 | 83 | 111 | −412 | −498 | 28 | 22 | 83 | −685 | 768 |
| 1971 1st qtr | 98 | 100 | 100 | 96 | 97 | 114 | 10 | 14 | −22 | 145 | −52 | 197 |
| 2nd qtr | 100 | 102 | 101 | 94 | 102 | 103 | −113 | 26 | 7 | 288 | 105 | 183 |
| 3rd qtr | 101 | 103 | 101 | 92 | 105 | −18 | 67 | 9 | 15 | 380 | 172 | 208 |
| 4th qtr | 101 | 105 | 101 | 88 | 102 | — | −47 | 3 | 21 | 248 | 60 | 188 |
| 1972 1st qtr | 100 | 106 | 103 | 88 | 105 | −136 | −156 | 15 | −9 | 73 | −119 | 192 |
| 2nd qtr | 102 | 108 | 102 | 84 | 110 | −104 | −145 | −12 | 40 | 126 | −50 | 176 |
| 3rd qtr | 102 | 109 | 101 | 81 | 110 | −87 | −125 | 4 | −8 | −105 | −284 | 179 |
| 4th qtr | 104 | 111 | 102 | 81 | 118 | −85 | −72 | 22 | −1 | −11 | −232 | 221 |
| 1973 1st qtr | 108 | 114 | 109 | 87 | 123 | 248 | 168 | 18 | 52 | −183 | −363 | 180 |
| 2nd qtr | 107 | 112 | 102 | 85 | 106 | 194 | 85 | −14 | 152 | −198 p | −396 p | 198 p |
| % change latest 2 quarters: | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| on prev. 2 quarters | +3.7 | +2.7 | +4.0 | +6.8 | +1.3 | | | | | | | |
| on a year earlier | +5.9 | +5.6 | +3.3 | +0.8 | +7.4 | | | | | | | |

| | Index of Industrial production | | Personal expenditure | | Prices and costs | | | | | Labour | | | Trade§ | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Total all industries | Total manufacturing industries | Retail sales | Cars: new registrations | Index of retail prices: Index‡ | Index of retail prices: % increase on a year earlier | Index of wholesale prices: all manufacturing industry: basic materials and fuel used‡ | Index of wholesale prices: all manufacturing industry: manufactured products: home sales‡ | Basic hourly wage rates of manual workers (all industries and services)‡ | Unemployed excluding school leavers and adult students: mid-month count | Unemployed excluding school leavers and adult students: % of total employees | Unfilled vacancies for adults: mid-month count | Exports | Imports |
| | | | | monthly averages | | | | | | | | | at current prices | |
| Base of index | 1970 | 1970 | 1971 | | Jan 16, 1962 | | 1970 | 1970 | July 31, 1972 | | | | 1963 | 1963 |
| £m in base year | | | 15,895 | thousands | | | | | | thousands | | thousands | 4,282 | 4,362 |
| 1969 | 99.9 | 99.6 | 97.3 | 82.3 | 131.8 | 5.4 | 95.0 | 93.4 | 71.2 | 531 | 2.3 | 200 | 165 | 165 |
| 1970 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 99.0 | 91.4 | 140.2 | 6.4 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 78.5 | 568 | 2.5 | 186 | 184 | 181 |
| 1971 | 100.5 | 99.7 | 100.0 | 108.5 | 153.4 | 9.4 | 104.6 | 109.0 | 88.9 | 737 | 3.2 | 129 | 205 | 195 |
| 1972 | 102.2 | 101.6 | 105.8 | 138.6 | 164.3 | 7.1 | 109.2 | 114.8 | 101.4 | 816 | 3.6 | 145 | 213 | 225 |
| 1971 3rd qtr | 100.6 | 99.4 | 100.5 | 116 | 155.3 | 10.1 | 105.6 | 110.3 | 89.6 | 772 | 3.4 | 119 | 214 | 194 |
| 4th qtr | 100.4 | 99.0 | 102.1 | 132 | 157.3 | 9.2 | 104.8 | 110.8 | 92.7 | 832 | 3.7 | 118 | 210 | 200 |
| 1972 1st qtr | 98.0 | 98.4 | 102.1 | 124 | 159.7 | 8.0 | 105.6 | 112.1 | 95.9 | 870 | 3.8 | 124 | 204 | 211 |
| 2nd qtr | 102.7 | 101.3 | 104.6 | 147 | 162.7 | 6.2 | 106.1 | 113.5 | 98.1 | 835 | 3.7 | 135 | 216 | 216 |
| 3rd qtr | 102.4 | 101.6 | 107.2 | 139 | 165.4 | 6.5 | 109.4 | 115.6 | 102.2 | 809 | 3.6 | 146 | 192 | 215 |
| 4th qtr | 105.7 | 105.3 | 109.5 | 144 | 169.4 | 7.7 | 115.6 | 118.0 | 107.8 | 754 | 3.3 | 176 | 242 | 253 |
| 1973 1st qtr | 109.8 | 109.8 | 112.0 | 150 | 172.4 | 8.0 | 126.0 | 119.5 | 108.8 | 665 | 2.9 | 229 | 246 | 275 |
| 2nd qtr | 110.3 | 110.4 | 108.2 | 134 | 177.9 | 9.3 | 133.4 | 120.1* | 112.6 | 602 | 2.6 | 292 | 263 | 294 |
| 3rd qtr | 111.4 | 112.2 | 110.7 | 141 | 180.2 | 9.2 | 149.9 p | 124.0 p | 118.4 | 563 | 2.5 | 332 | 285 | 329 |
| 1973 Jan | 107.9 | 106.9 | 109.4 | 147 | 171.3 | 7.7 | 122.7 | 119.0 | 108.4 | 703 | 3.1 | 201 | 243 | 261 |
| Feb | 110.3 | 110.7 | 111.8 | 153 | 172.4 | 7.9 | 126.0 | 119.6 | 108.9 | 660 | 2.9 | 238 | 252 | 269 |
| Mar | 111.2 | 111.8 | 114.2 | 149 | 173.4 | 8.2 | 129.4 | 120.0 | 109.5 | 630 | 2.8 | 254 | 243 | 295 |
| Apr | 109.7 | 109.5 | 107.1 | 137 | 176.7 | 9.2 | 130.5 | 118.8* | 112.3 | 617 | 2.7 | 275 | 267 | 274 |
| May | 110.1 | 109.4 | 106.7 | 132 | 178.0 | 9.5 | 132.4 | 120.1 | 113.2 | 599 | 2.6 | 296 | 252 | 306 |
| June | 111.0 | 112.2 | 110.3 | 133 | 178.9 | 9.3 | 137.2 | 121.3 | 115.6 | 590 | 2.6 | 307 | 271 | 303 |
| July | 111.3 | 111.7 | 110.8 | 145 | 179.7 | 9.4 | 145.1 | 122.7 | 115.9 | 578 | 2.5 | 325 | 275 | 314 |
| Aug | 111.1 | 111.2 | 111.0 | 151 | 180.2 | 8.9 | 152.4 | 124.1 | 119.5 | 565 | 2.5 | 327 | 284 | 332 |
| Sept | 111.9 | 112.8 | 110.4 | 127 | 181.8 | 9.3 | 153.8 p | 126.0 p | 120.0 | 545 | 2.4 | 345 | 298 | 341 |
| Oct | | | | 125 | 185.4 | 9.9 | 160.3 p | 128.1 p | 120.3 | 515 | 2.3 | 362 | 282 p | 359 p |
| Nov | | | | | | | | | | 490 p | 2.2 | 366 p | | |
| % change latest 3 months: | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| on prev. 3 months | +1.1 | +1.6 | +2.3 | −1.7 | +2.0 | | +12.4 | +3.3 | +4.4 | −10.6 | | +11.9 | +8.3 | +10.6 |
| on a year earlier | +8.9 | +10.4 | +3.3 | −6.5 | +9.3 | | +37.1 | +8.7 | +13.2 | −34.0 | | +119.0 | +39.8 | +46.2 |

(‡) Not seasonally adjusted. (§) On a balance of payments basis. * After April, affected by changes due to VAT

TOURISM

# Foreign arrivals in the United Kingdom during September

ABOUT 624,000 foreign visitors, including all travellers from EEC countries, arrived in the United Kingdom in September 1973, 8 per cent more than in September 1972, according to the Department of Trade and Industry and the British Tourist Authority. (The figures exclude visitors from the Irish Republic and Commonwealth citizens.)

Total arrivals during the first nine months of 1973 were 5,092,000, 9 per cent more than for the corresponding period of 1972.

## EEC countries

Arrivals from EEC countries (excluding the Irish Republic) were 278,000 in September, 14 per cent up on September 1972. Arrivals from Belgium and Luxembourg again showed a large rise and were 30 per cent higher for the first nine months of this year than for 1972.

## Other foreign countries

Total foreign visitor arrivals from non-EEC countries at 346,000 in September were 4 per cent up on 1972. For the fourth month running the number of visitors from the USA fell. In September 9 per cent fewer visitors came than in September 1972 and in the first nine months of 1973 3 per cent fewer visitors came than in the corresponding period of 1972.

## FOREIGN ARRIVALS

Thousands per month

| | Total arrivals from EEC countries (excluding Irish Republic) | | Foreign visitors from non-EEC countries | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | Rest of Western Europe (non-EEC) | | United States | | Other foreign countries | | Total non-EEC countries | |
| 1967 | 126 | | 30 | | 70 | | 23 | | 123 | |
| 1968 | 144 | | 34 | | 73 | | 29 | | 136 | |
| 1969 | 174 | | 40 | | 95 | | 35 | | 170 | |
| 1970 | 199 | | 47 | | 117 | | 41 | | 205 | |
| 1971 | 214 | | 53 | | 129 | | 46 | | 228 | |
| 1972 | 232 | | 59 | | 134 | | 51 | | 244 | |
| | UA | SA | UA | SA | UA | SA | UA | SA | UA | SA |
| 1972 | | | | | | | | | | |
| January | 124 | 223 | 32 | 56 | 56 | 136 | 31 | 50 | 119 | 242 |
| February | 105 | 208 | 30 | 54 | 46 | 134 | 25 | 49 | 101 | 237 |
| March | 240 | 264 | 51 | 62 | 84 | 139 | 34 | 51 | 169 | 252 |
| April | 234 | 264 | 50 | 62 | 114 | 138 | 41 | 49 | 205 | 249 |
| May | 253 | 217 | 54 | 54 | 166 | 136 | 49 | 48 | 269 | 238 |
| June | 254 | 210 | 77 | 55 | 213 | 120 | 61 | 50 | 351 | 225 |
| July | 472 | 213 | 126 | 57 | 242 | 119 | 86 | 49 | 454 | 225 |
| August | 358 | 209 | 72 | 57 | 213 | 118 | 86 | 51 | 371 | 226 |
| September | 244 | 229 | 61 | 58 | 199 | 139 | 72 | 51 | 332 | 248 |
| October | 195 | 245 | 59 | 62 | 129 | 142 | 51 | 52 | 239 | 256 |
| November | 137 | 245 | 43 | 60 | 79 | 142 | 33 | 54 | 155 | 256 |
| December | 169 | 258 | 45 | 64 | 71 | 139 | 41 | 58 | 157 | 261 |
| 1973 | | | | | | | | | | |
| January | 139 | 254 | 35 | 62 | 60 | 136 | 34 | 54 | 129 | 252 |
| February | 132 | 268 | 36 | 65 | 51 | 139 | 29 | 56 | 116 | 260 |
| March | 170 | 272 | 44 | 73 | 88 | 138 | 46 | 69 | 178 | 280 |
| April | 334 | 272 | 78 | 73 | 129 | 144 | 49 | 60 | 256 | 277 |
| May | 266 | 238 | 56 | 56 | 167 | 134 | 61 | 60 | 284 | 250 |
| June | 299 | 255 | 88 | 65 | 196 | 126 | 73 | 60 | 357 | 251 |
| July | 535 | 250 | 142 | 65 | 228 | 118 | 106 | 61 | 476 | 244 |
| August | 408 | 248 | 89 | 70 | 197 | 114 | 101 | 60 | 387 | 244 |
| September | 278 | 266 | 74 | 71 | 181 | 127 | 91 | 64 | 346 | 262 |
| Jan.-Sept. 1972 | 2,284 | | 553 | | 1,333 | | 486 | | 2,372 | |
| Jan.-Sept. 1973 | 2,561 | | 643 | | 1,297 | | 590 | | 2,530 | |

Total arrivals = all persons admitted, including long stay and short stay visitors from EEC countries.
Foreign visitors = all persons entering for visits of under one year from non-EEC countries, excluding Commonwealth countries.
UA = unadjusted. SA = seasonally adjusted. Source: Home Office

**SYMBOLS USED IN ALL STATISTICAL TABLES**

| | |
|---|---|
| .. not available | r revised |
| — nil or less than half the final digit shown | * five week period |
| p provisional | ø fifty-three week period |

## Seasonally adjusted figures

The seasonally adjusted series have been revised this month to take account of recent changes in the pattern of monthly arrivals. The figures show that while there has been some falling away in recent months in the underlying level of arrivals from the United States, arrivals from other countries have been broadly maintained during most of this year.

## Notes

The figures in the table are limited to foreign nationals, excluding Commonwealth citizens and citizens of the Irish Republic.

Following the entry of the United Kingdom into the European Economic Community, since when citizens of community countries can enter the United Kingdom without having to state their purpose of visit, or expected length of stay, total arrivals from member countries of the Community are shown instead of visitors entering for a stay of under one year. Corresponding figures for 1972 and earlier years are included for comparison purposes.

For other countries visitors entering for a stay of under one year are shown as before.

**Seasonally adjusted figures:** Simple comparisons of monthly figures between one year and another, or between adjacent months can be misleading. For example, the increase in numbers in April 1973 compared with a year earlier was partly due to Easter having been later that year than 1972. The seasonally adjusted figures provide a better basis for comparison with other months, or for judging current trends. In estimating the seasonal adjustments allowance has been made for changes in the seasonal pattern, which have been in the direction of a spreading of the tourist season, with some reduction in the summer peak relative to the rest of the year. Adjustment was also made for the effect of varying date of Easter on a number of Western Europe visitors.

# 'Economic Progress Report' for December

THE main articles in the December issue of *Economic Progress Report* are as follows: 'The rise in real personal income', 'Own as you earn', 'The European Investment Bank', 'Monthly economic assessment', 'Economic indicators'.

*Economic Progress Report*, prepared by the Treasury Information Division, is published every month.

# Northern Ireland index of production

THE provisional index of production for September 1973 is 162. This is three points lower than the index for August 1973 and one point lower than for September 1972.

The index numbers for the main industrial groups with the increase or decrease on September 1972 shown in brackets are: textiles 267 (+19 points); clothing 137(+7); engineering and metals 104 (−2); food, drink and tobacco 126(−9); timber and furniture 182(+35); mineral products 191 (−12); other manufacturing industries 227 (−19); and gas, electricity and water 187 (+14).


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# Quarterly analysis of production

PRODUCTION by weight of synthetic fibres in the third quarter of 1973 was 22 per cent more than in the corresponding period of 1972, while production of viscose and acetate fibres was 3 per cent more. Within the total for synthetic fibres, production of continuous filament yarn increased by 17 per cent and staple fibre by 27 per cent. Under the heading 'viscose and acetate', production of continuous filament yarn decreased by 2 per cent and staple fibre increased by 6 per cent compared with the third quarter of 1972.

## ANALYSIS OF MAN-MADE FIBRE PRODUCTION

Thousand metric tons (†)

| | Total | | Continuous filament | | Staple fibre | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Synthetic | Viscose +acetate | Synthetic | Viscose +acetate | Synthetic | Viscose +acetate |
| 1961 | 66.2 | 191.3 | 39.7 | 79.2 | 26.5 | 112.2 |
| 1962 | 83.0 | 201.5 | 51.7 | 80.2 | 31.2 | 121.3 |
| 1963 | 105.4 | 220.8 | 64.3 | 85.5 | 41.1 | 135.3 |
| 1964 | 126.4 | 247.9 | 75.1 | 96.4 | 51.3 | 151.5 |
| 1965 | 148.0 | 243.0 | 81.6 | 98.2 | 66.4 | 144.9 |
| 1966 | 174.8 | 225.1 | 95.8 | 90.7 | 78.9 | 134.4 |
| 1967 | 194.1 | 239.1 | 108.2 | 90.7 | 85.9 | 148.5 |
| 1968 | 268.4 | 270.8 | 144.3 | 97.5 | 124.1 | 173.3 |
| 1969 | 291.4 | 262.5 | 155.9 | 96.6 | 135.5 | 166.0 |
| 1970 | 336.9 | 262.5 | 166.6 | 90.9 | 170.3 | 171.6 |
| 1971 | 357.3 | 255.7 | 191.2 | 85.2 | 166.1 | 170.6 |
| 1972 | 373.9 | 252.6 | 196.4 | 67.6 | 177.5 | 185.0 |
| 1971 1st quarter | 92.5 | 64.8 | 49.6 | 22.6 | 42.9 | 42.2 |
| 2nd quarter | 89.6 | 63.6 | 48.5 | 21.0 | 41.1 | 42.6 |
| 3rd quarter | 86.1 | 61.7 | 45.9 | 20.4 | 40.2 | 41.3 |
| 4th quarter | 89.1 | 65.7 | 47.3 | 21.2 | 41.9 | 44.5 |
| 1972 1st quarter | 88.1 | 57.7 | 44.9 | 14.7 | 43.2 | 43.0 |
| 2nd quarter | 95.5 | 66.4 | 48.0 | 17.8 | 47.5 | 48.6 |
| 3rd quarter | 88.5 | 61.4 | 46.2 | 16.9 | 42.3 | 44.5 |
| 4th quarter | 102.0 | 67.2 | 57.3 | 18.2 | 44.7 | 49.0 |
| 1973 1st quarter | 111.8 | 71.7 | 59.7 | 18.4 | 52.1 | 53.3 |
| 2nd quarter | 116.2 | 70.0 | 60.6 | 18.8 | 55.6 | 51.2 |
| 3rd quarter | 107.9 | 63.5 | 54.1 | 16.5 | 53.8 | 47.0 |

The heading 'Viscose + acetate' includes triacetate.

(†) From July 1967 the production figures for continuous filament yarn are on an 'actual weight' basis: previously figures were on a 'delivered weight' basis which is approximately 3 per cent less than the corresponding 'actual weight'.

# Deliveries in the third quarter

TOTAL deliveries of man-made fibres in the third quarter of 1973 were 20 per cent more than in the third quarter of 1972. Deliveries of continuous filament yarns to the home trade were 7 per cent more than in the third quarter of 1972, while deliveries of staple fibre were 24 per cent more.


## A library for exporters

Foreign trade statistics and other economic statistics from almost every country in the world are available for reference in the Department of Trade and Industry Statistics and Market Intelligence Library at Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London, EC4M 7HU. A modern well-equipped library of over 85,000 volumes, it has a reading room for visitors, and provides a document-copying service. There are trade directories covering 150 countries, and an expanding collection of trade catalogues of overseas manufacturers. The library opens from 9 to 5.30, Mondays to Fridays (Tel. 01-248 5757, ext. 368 or Telex No. 886143).


## DELIVERIES OF CONTINUOUS FILAMENT YARNS (*a*)

Thousand metric tons

| | | Home | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Total | Total | Broad weaving | Weft knitting | Warp knitting | Industrial purposes (tyres etc.) | Other purposes | Exports as yarn (*b*) |
| 1964 | 176.9 | 134.1 | 39.5 | 25.8 | 19.3 | 43.4 | 6.0 | 42.9 |
| 1965 | 180.3 | 140.7 | 40.4 | 25.0 | 21.4 | 48.1 | 6.8 | 39.6 |
| 1966 | 183.8 | 149.5 | 41.1 | 30.9 | 20.9 | 48.6 | 7.9 | 34.4 |
| 1967 | 198.4 | 156.9 | 34.2 | 39.6 | 25.3 | 48.9 | 8.9 | 41.5 |
| 1968 | 238.4 | 188.9 | 40.0 | 54.9 | 32.0 | 52.2 | 9.8 | 49.4 |
| 1969 | 242.7 | 193.6 | 39.2 | 51.9 | 35.3 | 58.8 | 8.4 | 49.1 |
| 1970 | 254.8 | 198.1 | 35.3 | 63.7 | 38.0 | 53.3 | 7.8 | 56.7 |
| 1971 | 261.4 | 198.7 | 34.0 | 69.9 | 41.4 | 43.5 | 9.9 | 62.7 |
| 1971 1st qtr | 69.3 | 53.9 | 8.6 | 20.0 | 10.5 | 12.7 | 2.2 | 15.3 |
| 2nd qtr. | 64.5 | 49.6 | 8.3 | 17.1 | 10.3 | 11.1 | 2.8 | 14.9 |
| 3rd qtr. | 60.1 | 44.6 | 7.5 | 15.7 | 9.7 | 9.5 | 2.2 | 15.5 |
| 4th qtr. | 67.6 | 50.6 | 9.6 | 17.1 | 10.9 | 10.3 | 2.7 | 17.0 |

| | | Home | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Total | Total | Broad weaving | Warp knitting | Industrial purposes (tyres, etc.) | Other purposes | Textured or for texturing for all purposes other than carpets or industrial | Exports as yarn (*b*) |
| 1972 | 270.1 | 198.7 | 38.5 | 40.4 | 40.8 | 10.0 | 69.0 | 71.4 |
| 1972 1st qtr. | 63.3 | 46.0 | 8.8 | 10.0 | 9.8 | 2.7 | 14.8 | 17.3 |
| 2nd qtr. | 65.1 | 48.6 | 9.4 | 10.0 | 10.4 | 2.7 | 16.2 | 16.5 |
| 3rd qtr. | 63.2 | 46.9 | 9.2 | 9.3 | 9.3 | 1.8 | 17.3 | 16.3 |
| 4th qtr. | 78.5 | 57.2 | 11.2 | 11.1 | 11.3 | 2.9 | 20.7 | 21.4 |
| 1973 1st qtr. | 82.4 | 59.0 | 11.3 | 12.3 | 11.7 | 3.0 | 20.7 | 23.4 |
| 2nd qtr. | 81.8 | 60.2 | 11.8 | 12.2 | 12.6 | 3.4 | 20.2 | 21.7 |
| 3rd qtr. | 71.1 | 50.2 | 10.0(*c*) | 10.5 | 9.9 | 2.9 | 16.8 | 20.8 |

(*a*) The classification of end uses was revised in January 1968 and the figures for deliveries to individual industries 1968 to 1971 might not be fully comparable with those for earlier years. From January 1972 a further reclassification was introduced: deliveries of textured yarns and yarns for texturing, which were previously included in the figures for individual industries, are shown separately from the first quarter 1972.

(*b*) The figures refer to deliveries from the industry direct for export and may differ from the totals recorded as exports in the monthly trade accounts.

(c) Includes 4.4 thousand metric tons for carpets and rugs.

## DELIVERIES OF STAPLE FIBRE (*a*)

Thousand metric tons

| | | Home | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Total | Total | Cotton spinning | Wool spinning | Flax spinning | Other systems and sundries | Exports (*b*) |
| 1964 | 208.6 | 158.6 | 62.0 | 57.8 | 17.4 | 21.5 | 50.1 |
| 1965 | 204.4 | 151.8 | 57.0 | 56.9 | 13.3 | 24.5 | 52.7 |
| 1966 | 204.5 | 147.6 | 52.1 | 57.0 | 12.8 | 25.8 | 57.0 |
| 1967 | 234.5 | 152.9 | 47.9 | 58.2 | 19.1 | 27.8 | 81.6 |
| 1968 | 282.4 | 173.1 | 52.3 | 58.2 | 26.3 | 36.3 | 109.3 |
| 1969 | 299.3 | 169.2 | 51.1 | 51.5 | 28.0 | 38.6 | 130.1 |
| 1970 | 329.4 | 191.4 | 57.6 | 57.1 | 31.5 | 45.2 | 138.1 |
| 1971 | 338.7 | 185.9 | 59.6 | 50.1 | 29.3 | 46.9 | 152.9 |
| 1971 1st qtr. | 88.7 | 49.4 | 16.8 | 13.2 | 6.9 | 12.5 | 39.3 |
| 2nd qtr. | 82.4 | 45.2 | 15.0 | 12.5 | 6.3 | 11.5 | 37.2 |
| 3rd qtr. | 82.1 | 41.8 | 13.0 | 11.1 | 7.1 | 10.7 | 40.2 |
| 4th qtr. | 85.6 | 49.4 | 14.9 | 13.3 | 9.0 | 12.3 | 36.2 |

| | | Home | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Total | Total | Cotton spinning | Wool spinning | Other systems and sundries | Exports (*b*) |
| 1972 | 363.9 | 186.4 | 49.5 | 33.4 | 103.5 | 177.5 |
| 1972 1st qtr. | 89.0 | 43.1 | 11.5 | 7.4 | 24.3 | 45.9 |
| 2nd qtr. | 95.9 | 50.4 | 13.6 | 8.7 | 28.2 | 45.5 |
| 3rd qtr. | 83.2 | 43.2 | 11.0 | 8.0 | 24.2 | 40.1 |
| 4th qtr. | 95.7 | 49.7 | 13.4 | 9.4 | 26.8 | 46.0 |
| 1973 1st qtr. | 106.6 | 56.7 | 14.9 | 12.0 | 29.8 | 50.0 |
| 2nd qtr. | 108.1 | 62.2 | 16.5 | 14.9 | 30.9 | 45.9 |
| 3rd qtr. | 103.9 | 53.4 | 14.3 | 12.7 | 26.5 | 50.5 |

(*a*) The classification of end uses was revised in January 1972, and the figures for deliveries to individual industries from the first quarter 1972 are not comparable with those for earlier years.

(*b*) The figures refer to deliveries from the industry direct for export and may differ from the totals recorded as exports in the monthly trade accounts.

MAN-MADE FIBRES

# Production in September

In the third quarter 1973 the volume of production of man-made fibres, seasonally adjusted, was estimated to have been 2 per cent lower than in the second quarter 1973. Total production by weight of man-made fibres in September was 13 per cent higher than in September 1972 with output of continuous filament increasing by 10 per cent and staple fibre by 15 per cent.

## MAN-MADE FIBRE PRODUCTION

Thousand metric tons (†)

| | Total | Continuous filament (singles) | Staple fibre |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1968 | 539.1 | 241.8 | 297.4 |
| 1969 | 553.9 | 252.5 | 301.5 |
| 1970 | 599.4 | 257.6 | 341.9 |
| 1971 | 613.1 | 276.4 | 336.7 |
| 1972 | 626.5 | 264.0 | 362.5 |
| 1972 1st quarter | 145.7 | 59.6 | 86.2 |
| 2nd quarter | 161.9 | 65.8 | 96.0 |
| 3rd quarter | 149.8 | 63.1 | 86.7 |
| 4th quarter | 169.1 | 75.4 | 93.6 |
| 1973 1st quarter | 183.5 | 78.1 | 105.4 |
| 2nd quarter | 186.1 | 79.4 | 106.7 |
| 3rd quarter | 171.4 | 70.6 | 100.8 |
| 1972 January | 48.0 | 22.6 | 25.3 |
| February | 45.2 | 17.1 | 28.1 |
| March | 52.6 | 19.8 | 32.7 |
| April | 52.3 | 20.3 | 32.0 |
| May | 56.4 | 22.9 | 33.5 |
| June | 53.2 | 22.7 | 30.5 |
| July | 51.0 | 20.6 | 30.4 |
| August | 48.5 | 20.2 | 28.3 |
| September | 50.3 | 22.3 | 28.0 |
| 1973 January | 60.0 | 25.8 | 34.2 |
| February | 55.5 | 22.8 | 32.7 |
| March | 67.9 | 29.4 | 38.5 |
| April | 59.4 | 24 3 | 35.1 |
| May | 62.5 | 26.6 | 35.9 |
| June | 64.2 | 28.5 | 35.7 |
| July | 59.5 | 24.1 | 35.4 |
| August | 55.0 | 22.0 | 33.0 |
| September | 56.8 | 24.5 | 32.3 |

## INDEX OF THE VOLUME OF PRODUCTION 1970=100

| | |
|---|---|
| 1968 | 87 |
| 1969 | 92 |
| 1970 | 100 |
| 1971 | 106 |
| 1972 | 107 |

| | Actual | Seasonally adjusted |
|---|---|---|
| 1972 1st quarter | 100 | 98 |
| 2nd quarter | 109 | 107 |
| 3rd quarter | 101 | 107 |
| 4th quarter | 118 | 117 |
| 1973 1st quarter | 129 | 127 |
| 2nd quarter | 131 | 128 |
| 3rd quarter | 118 | 125 |
| 1972 January | 105 | 102 |
| February | 94 | 92 |
| March | 101 | 100 |
| April | 105 | 102 |
| May | 111 | 106 |
| June | 112 | 111 |
| July | 99 | 102 |
| August | 97 | 110 |
| September | 109 | 110 |
| 1973 January | 124 | 120 |
| February | 123 | 121 |
| March | 141 | 140 |
| April | 125 | 122 |
| May | 128 | 123 |
| June | 140 | 139 |
| July | 120 | 124 |
| August | 112 | 126 |
| September | 124 | 125 |

The actual figures allow for differences in the length of calendar months but not for holidays or other seasonal variations. The seasonally adjusted figures are based on the seasonal pattern up to the end of 1972, and may be subject to slight revision when the complete figures for 1973 are incorporated.

Tel. 01-212 0531 or 01-212 6474.

## New companies registered

Below are details of new companies registered in Great Britain during October 1973 showing nominal capital. The figures are exclusive of unlimited companies and companies limited by guarantee.

| Nominal Capital | Total | Public companies | Private companies |
|---|---|---|---|
| Not exceeding £100 | 4,459 | — | 4,459 |
| Over £100 but under £1,000 | 119 | — | 119 |
| £1,000 but under £10,000 | 1,087 | — | 1,087 |
| £10,000 but under £50,000 | 229 | — | 229 |
| £50,000 but under £100,000 | 26 | — | 26 |
| £100,000 but under £1,000,000 | 25 | — | 25 |
| £1,000,000 and over | — | — | — |
| Total number | 5,945 | | 5,945 |
| Total amount of Nominal Capital | £ thous 11,918 | £ thous | £ thous 11,918 |

Companies registered in Great Britain in 1972 and 1973

| | 1972 | | 1973 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Number | Nominal capital £ thous | Number | Nominal capital £ thous |
| January | 4,008 | 8,032 | 4,666 | 8,050 |
| February | 3,745 | 12,111 | 5,919 | 7,762 |
| March | 4,045 | 10,671 | 6,310 | 21,762 |
| April | 4,182 | 9,931 | 5,617 | 12,632 |
| May | 4,412 | 9,158 | 5,331 | 9,111 |
| June | 3,777 | 5,561 | 4,752 | 30,575 |
| July | 3,696 | 17,760 | 5,245 | 17,291 |
| August | 5,689 | 7,827 | 6,371 | 16,843 |
| September | 5,512 | 7,498 | 4,988 | 28,337 |
| October | 5,096 | 16,655 | 5,945 | 11,918 |
| November | 5,251 | 7,084 | | |
| December | 4,567 | 15,343 | | |
| Total | 53,980 | 127,631 | | |

## The Bankruptcy Acts 1914 and 1926

The number of Receiving Orders and Administration Orders in Bankruptcy (deceased debtors' estates), made in the High Court and in the several County Courts having bankruptcy jurisdiction in England and Wales, made in the Quarter ended September 30, 1973, and also the total number of Deeds of Arrangement registered during the same period, together with the corresponding figures for the previous four Quarters are as follows:

| Receiving Orders and Administration orders | 3rd quarter 1973 | 2nd quarter 1973 | 1st quarter 1973 | 4th quarter 1972 | 3rd quarter 1972 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| High Court | 197 | 286 | 263 | 369 | 263 |
| County Courts | 656 | 637 | 716 | 664 | 584 |
| Total | 853 | 923 | 979 | 1,033 | 847 |
| Deeds of Arrangement Total number registered | 17 | 33 | 29 | 21 | 22 |

Information regarding the Quarter ended September 30, 1973 was published in greater detail, with an analysis of the bankruptcies in the respective Courts, in the *London Gazette* dated November 15, 1973.

## Bankruptcy records for England and Wales

Details of bankruptcies in England and Wales are maintained in a public search room at Room 901, Thomas More Building, Royal Court of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2JY.

Searches can be made personally or by an agent and a fee of 25p in respect of each bankruptcy inquiry is payable at the time.

# Motor vehicle production in October

## Summary

PRODUCTION of motor vehicles in the October period showed a marked recovery towards the higher levels of last winter. Over the four weeks ending October 27 recorded output of passenger cars totalled 157,678 and showed a weekly rate of production nearly as high as in last January but still some 6 per cent below the very high rate achieved in October 1972. Output of commercial vehicles, at a weekly average of 9.880, was higher on a recorded basis than in any month this year and nearly 8 per cent above October last year.

In seasonally adjusted terms, output of motor vehicles as a whole was slightly lower in the three months August-October than in the previous three months; higher exports of both cars and commercial vehicles were more than offset by reduced production for the home market.

(The comments which follow relate, unless otherwise stated, to the position based on the seasonally adjusted figures in Table 2.)

## Cars

After a low rate of production in September as a result of industrial disputes, output of passenger cars in October increased sharply to 160,000, a monthly rate approaching the highest achieved so far this year. The marked recovery was in production for both the home and export markets. However, the adverse figures in September have contributed to the average of 148,000 a month in the three months August-October, which showed a slight fall compared with the average for the preceding three months. For the same three monthly comparisons production for exports showed a 2 per cent rise but production for the larger home market was 4 per cent lower.

## Commercial vehicles

Total production of commercial vehicles also increased in October and at 39,200 was higher than any other month since mid 1971, apart from July of this year. Production over the latest three months averaged 37,000 a month., the same as for the preceding three months and almost as high as the rate in the fourth quarter of last year. There was in the last three months an appreciable upward movement of 6 per cent for exports but this was wholly offset between the two periods by the fall of 4 per cent in production for the home market.

*(continued on next page)*

## TABLE 1. RECORDED PRODUCTION

Production figures of road motor vehicles cover complete vehicles, chassis with engines for delivery as such and unassembled vehicles for export. Road tractors are included but battery operated road vehicles are excluded.

Production for export may differ from actual exports as recorded in the Overseas Trade Statistics because of differences in timing and coverage.

| | | Passenger cars (including taxis) | | | | Commercial road vehicles | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | No. of weeks | For home market | For export | Totals | Weekly average | For home market | For export | Totals | Weekly average |
| 1966 | 52 | 978,684 | 624,995 | 1,603,679 | 30,840 | 260,614 | 178,061 | 438,675 | 8,436 |
| 1967 | 52 | 988,273 | 563,740 | 1,552,013 | 29,846 | 245,692 | 139,414 | 385,106 | 7,406 |
| 1968 | 52 | 1,013,163 | 802,773 | 1,815,936 | 34,922 | 259,331 | 149,855 | 409,186 | 7,869 |
| 1969 | 53 | 892,758 | 824,315 | 1,717,073 | 32,398 | 272,998 | 192,778 | 465,776 | 8,788 |
| 1970 | 52 | 918,109 | 722,857 | 1,640,966 | 31,557 | 267,407 | 190,125 | 457,532 | 8,799 |
| 1971 | 52 | 1,027,462 | 714,478 | 1,741,940 | 33,499 | 268,278 | 187,928 | 456,206 | 8,773 |
| 1972 | 52 | 1,307,881 | 613,430 | 1,921,311 | 36,948 | 272,649 | 135,470 | 408,119 | 7,848 |
| 1973 | 52 | | | | | | | | |
| 1972 1st quarter | 13 | 312,399 | 167,804 | 480,203 | 36,939 | 63,793 | 31,477 | 95,270 | 7,328 |
| 2nd quarter | 13 | 346,472 | 167,594 | 514,066 | 39,544 | 71,914 | 39,573 | 111,487 | 8,576 |
| 3rd quarter | 13 | 277,386 | 118,992 | 396,378 | 30,491 | 53,114 | 27,161 | 80,275 | 6,175 |
| 4th quarter | 13 | 371,624 | 159,040 | 530,664 | 40,820 | 83,828 | 37,259 | 121,087 | 9,314 |
| 1973 1st quarter | 13 | 320,052 | 159,636 | 479,688 | 36,899 | 69,954 | 36,346 | 106,300 | 8,177 |
| 2nd quarter | 13 | 290,253 | 156,565 | 446,818 | 34,371 | 69,399 | 39,980 | 109,379 | 8,414 |
| 3rd quarter | 13 | 229,505 | 122,937 | 352,442 | 27,111 | 54,106 | 36,031 | 90,137 | 6,934 |
| 4th quarter | 13 | | | | | | | | |
| 1972 January | 4 | 92,654 | 47,901 | 140,555 | 35,139 | 21,543 | 9,339 | 30,882 | 7,721 |
| February | 4 | 83,678 | 47,851 | 131,529 | 32,882 | 17,052 | 8,324 | 25,376 | 6,344 |
| March | 5 | 136,067 | 72,052 | 208,119 | 41,624 | 25,198 | 13,814 | 39,012 | 7,802 |
| April | 4 | 92,248 | 52,839 | 145,087 | 36,272 | 20,258 | 11,469 | 31,727 | 7,932 |
| May | 4 | 116,373 | 55,935 | 172,308 | 43,077 | 24,726 | 13,843 | 38,569 | 9,642 |
| June | 5 | 137,851 | 58,820 | 196,671 | 39,334 | 26,930 | 14,261 | 41,191 | 8,238 |
| July | 4 | 70,488 | 31,412 | 101,900 | 25,475 | 14,628 | 7,364 | 21,992 | 5,498 |
| August | 4 | 85,880 | 32,751 | 118,631 | 29,658 | 15,019 | 6,873 | 21,892 | 5,473 |
| September | 5 | 121,018 | 54,829 | 175,847 | 35,169 | 23,467 | 12,924 | 36,391 | 7,278 |
| October | 4 | 117,734 | 50,786 | 168,520 | 42,130 | 25,617 | 11,029 | 36,646 | 9,162 |
| November | 4 | 125,118 | 49,527 | 174,645 | 43,661 | 28,866 | 12,194 | 41,060 | 10,265 |
| December | 5 | 128,772 | 58,727 | 187,499 | 37,500 | 29,345 | 14,036 | 43,381 | 8,676 |
| 1973 January | 5 | 135,970 | 62,089 | 198,059 | 39,612 | 28,419 | 12,597 | 41,016 | 8,203 |
| February | 4 | 89,426 | 48,590 | 138,016 | 34,504 | 21,401 | 12,054 | 33,455 | 8,364 |
| March | 4 | 94,656 | 48,957 | 143,613 | 35,903 | 20,134 | 11,695 | 31,829 | 7,957 |
| April | 4 | 80,647 | 45,620 | 126,267 | 31,567 | 18,957 | 11,278 | 30,235 | 7,559 |
| May | 5 | 111,333 | 62,307 | 173,640 | 34,728 | 26,613 | 13,684 | 40,297 | 8,059 |
| June | 4 | 98,273 | 48,638 | 146,911 | 36,728 | 23,829 | 15,018 | 38,847 | 9,712 |
| July | 4 | 66,106 | 33,488 | 99,594 | 24,899 | 16,054 | 12,041 | 28,095 | 7,024 |
| August | 4 | 76,537 | 42,100 | 118,637 | 29,659 | 14,437 | 8,754 | 23,191 | 5,798 |
| September | 5 | 86,862 | 47,349 | 134,211 | 26,842 | 23,615 | 15,236 | 38,851 | 7,770 |
| October | 4 | 100,661 | 57,017 | 157,678 | 39,419 | 23,475 | 16,046 | 39,521 | 9,880 |
| November | 4 | | | | | | | | |
| December | 5 | | | | | | | | |

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## MOTOR VEHICLE PRODUCTION
*continued*

### TABLE 2. PRODUCTION—SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

The seasonally adjusted series has been adjusted to exclude the effect of regularly recurring influence (eg holidays) but the figures still reflect the effect of factors that do not recur regularly (eg strikes).

Care should be taken not to interpret changes between one month and another as necessarily indicating the underlying trend. The averages in the latest three months and in the previous three months give a more reliable guide to recent changes.

MONTHLY AVERAGES — Thousands

| | Passenger cars | | | Commercial vehicles | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | For home market | For export | Total | For home market | For export | Total |
| 1966 | 82 | 52 | 134 | 21.7 | 14.8 | 36.6 |
| 1967 | 82 | 47 | 129 | 20.5 | 11.6 | 32.1 |
| 1968 | 84 | 67 | 151 | 21.6 | 12.5 | 34.1 |
| 1969 | 74 | 69 | 143 | 22.7 | 16.1 | 38.8 |
| 1970 | 77 | 60 | 137 | 22.3 | 15.8 | 38.1 |
| 1971 | 86 | 59 | 145 | 22.3 | 14.7 | 38.0 |
| 1972 | 109 | 51 | 160 | 22.7 | 11.3 | 34.0 |
| 1973 | | | | | | |
| 1972 1st quarter | 97 | 50 | 147 | 20.4 | 10.2 | 30.7 |
| 2nd quarter | 108 | 52 | 160 | 22.6 | 12.1 | 34.7 |
| 3rd quarter | 115 | 49 | 164 | 22.6 | 11.0 | 33.6 |
| 4th quarter | 116 | 53 | 170 | 25.2 | 11.9 | 37.1 |
| 1973 1st quarter | 99 | 47 | 146 | 22.3 | 12.0 | 34.3 |
| 2nd quarter | 91 | 49 | 139 | 21.8 | 12.2 | 34.1 |
| 3rd quarter | 98 | 51 | 148 | 23.1 | 14.7 | 38.0 |
| 4th quarter | | | | | | |
| 1972 January | 93 | 49 | 142 | 21.8 | 10.7 | 32.4 |
| February | 85 | 44 | 129 | 17.9 | 8.4 | 26.3 |
| March | 112 | 57 | 169 | 21.8 | 11.6 | 33.4 |
| April | 96 | 51 | 146 | 21.7 | 11.6 | 33.3 |
| May | 114 | 55 | 169 | 23.6 | 13.1 | 36.7 |
| June | 113 | 52 | 165 | 22.4 | 11.6 | 34.0 |
| July | 116 | 51 | 167 | 22.7 | 10.6 | 33.4 |
| August | 115 | 43 | 159 | 22.4 | 10.5 | 33.0 |
| September | 114 | 52 | 166 | 22.7 | 11.7 | 34.4 |
| October | 118 | 53 | 171 | 24.3 | 11.6 | 35.9 |
| November | 120 | 52 | 172 | 26.6 | 12.1 | 38.7 |
| December | 111 | 55 | 166 | 24.8 | 11.9 | 36.8 |
| 1973 January | 111 | 50 | 161 | 23.0 | 11.9 | 34.9 |
| February | 92 | 44 | 136 | 22.6 | 12.3 | 34.9 |
| March | 95 | 47 | 142 | 21.3 | 11.8 | 33.1 |
| April | 86 | 44 | 130 | 20.9 | 11.5 | 32.4 |
| May | 90 | 50 | 140 | 20.8 | 10.5 | 31.3 |
| June | 97 | 52 | 149 | 23.8 | 14.6 | 38.4 |
| July | 108 | 54 | 162 | 24.7 | 16.8 | 41.5 |
| August | 103 | 54 | 158 | 21.6 | 13.6 | 35.2 |
| September | 82 | 45 | 127 | 23.1 | 13.6 | 36.7 |
| October | 100 | 60 | 160 | 22.1 | 17.1 | 39.2 |
| Average of: | | | | | | |
| May-July 1973 | 99 | 52 | 151 | 23.1 | 14.0 | 37.1 |
| Aug.-Oct. 1973 | 95 | 53 | 148 | 22.3 | 14.7 | 37.0 |
| Percentage change | −4 | +2 | −2 | −4 | +6 | N/C |


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## Index of retail sales in Northern Ireland

THE seasonally adjusted index of retail sales in Northern Ireland for September was 140 (1965 = 100), 14 per cent more than in September 1972. In the third quarter of 1973 sales increased by 16 per cent compared with the corresponding period in the previous year.

After allowing for price changes, the total volume of sales in September 1973 was 3 per cent higher than a year earlier.

The seasonally adjusted index numbers of the value of sales and percentage increases on a year earlier for September and the third quarter 1973 for the main groups of traders are shown below. More detailed information can be obtained from the Ministry of Commerce, Index of Retail Sales, Chichester House, 64 Chichester Street, Belfast BT1 4JX (tel: Belfast (0232) 34488, ext. 336).

| | | September 1973 | | 3rd quarter 1973 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Sales by: | Sales in 1965— £m | Seasonally adjusted value index numbers 1965 = 100 | Percentage increases | Seasonally adjusted value index numbers 1965 = 100 | Percentage increases |
| All kinds of business | 256 | 140 | 14 | 145 | 16 |
| Food shops | 97 | 154 | 11 | 160 | 14 |
| Non-food shops | 159 | 132 | 16 | 136 | 17 |
| Of which: | | | | | |
| Clothing and footwear shops | 36 | 132 | 18 | 140 | 22 |
| Durable goods shops | 21 | 152 | 20 | 176 | 23 |
| Miscellaneous non-food shops | 80 | 130 | 16 | 127 | 13 |
| Department and general stores | 22 | 128 | 17 | 124 | 20 |


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C141 Wallcovering, miscellaneous manufactures of paper and board (39p)
C143 General printing, publishing, etc. (31p)
C147 Toys, games and children's carriages, sports equipment (38p).

Business Monitors in the Production, Service and Distributive and Miscellaneous series are normally available by annual subscription from Her Majesty's Stationery Office, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH. The Census of Production reports are available on standing order from the same address or can be purchased separately from the Government Bookshops or through booksellers.

Exceptionally copies can be purchased over the counter at either the Department of Trade and Industry Central Library, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, or at the Department's Statistics and Market Intelligence Library, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU. Copies of specific issues (including back issues) can be ordered by post (payable in advance) from the Department's Central Library, which will supply prices on request (tel: 01-222 7877, ext. 3038).

A complete list of titles of Business Monitors is available on application to Department of Trade and Industry, Room 306, Gaywood House, Great Peter Street, London SW1P 3LW.

## Index of retail prices for October

THE index of retail prices for all items for October 16, 1973 was 185.4 (January 16, 1962 = 100). This represents an increase of 2.0 per cent on September (181.8) and of 9.9 per cent on October 1972 (168.7).

The index for all items excluding food in October 1973 was 179.1—an increase of 1.4 per cent (2.5 points) on September.

The index for food in October was 205.1—an increase of 3.3 per cent (6.6 points) on September.

The rise in the all items index in October was due to higher prices for food, particularly eggs, tomatoes, meat, bread, cakes and fish, higher rents, and higher prices for household coal and coke, petrol, clothing and some other goods and services. The rises in the prices of coal and coke were largely seasonal.

The movements for the main groups of the index are shown in Table 2.

**TABLE 1.**

| | All items | | All items except seasonal food | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | Percentage change over | | |
| | Index January 16, 1962 = 100 | Percentage change over previous 12 months | Index January 16, 1962 = 100 | 1 month | 6 months | 6 months at an annual rate* |
| 1973 | | | | | | |
| May | 178.0 | +9.5 | 175.5 | +0.5 | +3.8 | + 7.7 |
| June | 178.9 | +9.3 | 176.7 | +0.7 | +4.1 | + 8.4 |
| July | 179.7 | +9.4 | 177.8 | +0.6 | +4.1 | + 8.4 |
| August | 180.2 | +8.9 | 179.0 | +0.7 | +4.4 | + 9.1 |
| September | 181.8 | +9.3 | 180.4 | +0.8 | +4.9 | +10.1 |
| October | 185.4 | +9.9 | 183.5 | +1.7 | +5.1 | +10.5 |

* Calculated at a compound rate.

**TABLE 2. GENERAL INDEX OF RETAIL PRICES**

| | Indices (January 16, 1962 = 100) | | Percentage change September 18 to October 16 |
|---|---|---|---|
| | September 18, 1973 | October 16, 1973 | |
| All items | 181.8 | 185.4 | +2.0 |
| All items excluding food | 176.6 | 179.1 | +1.4 |
| Food | 198.5 | 205.1 | +3.3 |
| Seasonal food | 218.9 | 234.9 | +7.3 |
| Other food | 194.9 | 199.7 | +2.5 |
| Alcoholic drink | 164.3 | 164.8 | +0.3 |
| Tobacco | 141.0 | 141.2 | +0.1 |
| Housing | 214.4 | 219.4 | +2.3 |
| Fuel and light | 175.3 | 181.3 | +3.4 |
| Durable household goods | 151.2 | 153.7 | +1.7 |
| Clothing and footwear | 159.3 | 161.3 | +1.3 |
| Transport and vehicles | 167.8 | 169.7 | +1.1 |
| Miscellaneous goods | 172.4 | 175.6 | +1.9 |
| Services | 208.4 | 209.9 | +0.7 |
| Meals out | 218.1 | 220.7 | +1.2 |

## Catalogues of Government Publications

Her Majesty's Stationery Office offer their customers a comprehensive service which will enable them to judge whether any other titles in the vast output of Government Publications would help them in their work or leisure. Full information about this service can be obtained by sending a postcard to Publicity Section, Her Majesty's Stationery Office, Room E22, Atlantic House, Holborn Viaduct, London, EC1P 1BN, asking for the CATALOGUE SERVICE LEAFLET.

# Release dates of economic statistics to be published in December

THIS notice is issued by the Central Statistical Office on behalf of the Government Statistical Service and other organisations as a guide to the dates of publication of major economic series in December. The dates are those which Departments, or other organisations concerned, are aiming at, and would normally expect to meet. Exceptionally, there may be a delay resulting from unavoidable statistical problems of collection and compilation. Further inquiries about individual series should be addressed to the source named.

| Publication date | Series | Method and time of release* | Source |
|---|---|---|---|
| December | | | |
| 3, Mon. | Capital expenditure of the manufacturing, distributive and service industries (3rd qtr-prov) | PN | DTI |
| | Manufacturers' and distributors' stocks (3rd qtr-prov) | PN | DTI |
| | Retail trade (Oct) | PN | DTI |
| | Hire purchase and other instalment credit business (Oct.) | PN | DTI |
| 4, Tues. | UK Official Reserves (Nov.) | PN | Treasury |
| | Capital issues and redemptions (Nov.) | PN | Bank of England |
| | Car and commercial vehicle production (Nov.-prov) | PN | DTI |
| 5, Wed. | Import and export unit value and volume index numbers (Oct.) | PN | DTI |
| | Construction-output (3rd qtr) | PN | Department of the Environment |
| 6, Thurs. | UK Balance of Payments (3rd qtr) | PN | CSO/ Treasury |
| 7, Fri. | Consolidated Fund and National Loans Fund (Nov.) | London Gazette | Treasury |
| 10, Mon. | Wholesale price index numbers (Nov.) | PN | DTI |
| | Turnover of the catering trades (Oct) | PN | DTI |
| 12, Wed. | London clearing banks monthly statement (mid-Nov.) | PN | CLCB |
| | UK banks' eligible liabilities, reserve assets and reserve ratios (mid-Nov.) | PN | Bank of England |
| 13, Thurs. | Sales and orders in the engineering industries (Aug.) | T & I | DTI |
| | Balance of payments current account and overseas trade figures (Nov.) | PN | CSO/DTI |
| 14, Fri. | Crude steel production (Nov.) | PN | BSC/BISPA |
| | Finished steel receipts, consumption and stock changes (3rd qtr-final) | PN | DTI |
| | Index of industrial production (Oct) | PN | CSO |
| | Building Societies receipts and loans (Nov.) | PN | BSA |
| | Retail prices index (Nov.) | PN | Department of Employment |
| 19, Wed. | UK banking statistics (3rd qtr) Money stock (3rd qtr) | Bulletin | Bank of England |
| | Basic rates of wages and normal weekly hours (end-Nov.) | PN | Department of Employment |
| | Monthly index of average earnings (Oct.) | PN | Department of Employment |
| 20, Thurs. | National income and expenditure (3rd qtr-prov) | PN | CSO |
| | Unemployment (Dec.-prov) | PN | Department of Employment |
| | Unfilled vacancies (Dec.-prov) | PN | Department of Employment |
| | Car and commercial vehicle production (Nov.) | PN | DTI |
| 21, Fri. | New vehicle registrations (Nov.) | PN | Department of the Environment |
| | Quarterly analysis of bank advances (mid-Nov.) | PN | Bank of England |
| | Borrowing by local authorities (3rd qtr) | PN | CSO |
| 23, Sun. | National Savings monthly progress report (Nov.) | PN | National Savings Committee |
| 24, Mon. | UK banks' assets and liabilities and the money stock (mid-Nov.) | PN | Bank of England |
| 27, Thurs. | Energy trends | T & I | DTI |
| 28, Fri. | National food survey report on consumption (3rd qtr) | PN | MAFF |
| | Construction—new orders (Oct) | PN | Department of the Environment |
| 31, Mon. | Bricks and cement production (Nov.) | PN | Department of the Environment |
| | Housing starts and completions (Nov.) | PN | Department of the Environment |
| | House improvement grants approved (Nov.) | PN | Department of the Environment |
| | Unemployment (Nov.-final) | Gazette | Department of Employment |
| | Employment in production industries (Oct.) | Gazette | Department of Employment |
| | Overtime and short-time workingi n manufacturing industries (Oct.) | Gazette | Department of Employment |
| | Stoppages of work due to industrial disputes (Nov.) | Gazette | Department of Employment |

* PN = Press Notice.

## Reprints of 'T & I' articles

**Reprints of *Trade and Industry* articles should be ordered within one week of publication from: Director of Publications (PI), HMSO, Atlantic House, Holborn Viaduct, London, EC1P 1BN. Reprints cost £3 for 250 copies of a page or part-page, plus 25p for each additional 125 copies; carriage extra.**

## Registrations of British, Community and foreign films

The following are details of films registered by the Department of Trade and Industry under the Films Acts 1960 to 1970, as amended by the European Communities Act 1972, during the week ended Friday, November 23, 1973.
BR/E indicates that the film is a British quota film, EC that the film is a quota film. The date which forms part of the registration number of each is the date on which quota life of the film expires.

| Title of film | Registered No. | Playing time minutes | Date of registration | Registered in the name of | Maker's name |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | BRITISH | | |
| Assassin | BR/E 37135/25/11/78 | 83 | November 19 | Columbia-Warner Distributors Ltd. | The Pemini Organisation Ltd. |
| Churchill—The Man | BR/E 37144/25/11/78 | 51 | November 21 | Butcher's Film Distributors Ltd. | Statesman Films Ltd. |
| Movietone News 2320 | BR/E 37040/25/11/78 | 9 | November 23 | British Movietonews Ltd. | British Movietonews Ltd. |
| Movietone News 2320A | BR/E 37041/25/11/78 | 7 | November 23 | British Movietonews Ltd. | British Movietonews Ltd. |
| | | | COMMUNITY | | |
| Day For Night | EC 37132/25/11/78 | 116 | November 19 | Columbia-Warner Distributors Ltd. | Les Films Du Carrosse, Paris, P.E.C.F., Paris and Produzione Intercontinentale Cinematografica, Rome |
| Louise | EC 37134/25/11/78 | 97 | November 19 | Columbia-Warner Distributors Ltd. | Les Films Ariane, Paris, P.E.C.F., Paris and Champion Film, Rome |
| Malizia | EC 37143/25/11/78 | 96 | November 21 | Columbia-Warner Distributors Ltd. | Clesi Cinematografica S.P.A., Rome |
| | | | FOREIGN | | |
| 4th Of July | F 37133 | 13 | November 19 | Columbia-Warner Distributors Ltd. | United States Information Agency |
| Catch My Soul | F 37136 | 96 | November 21 | Fox-Rank Distributors Ltd. | Metromedia Producers Corporation |
| Maestro Magoo | F 37137 | 6 | November 21 | MGM-EMI Distributors Ltd. | UPA Productions of America |
| Martian Magoo | F 37138 | 6 | November 21 | MGM-EMI Distributors Ltd. | UPA Productions of America |
| Robin Hood Magoo | F 37139 | 6 | November 21 | MGM-EMI Distributors Ltd. | UPA Productions of America |
| Hunter Magoo | F 37140 | 6 | November 21 | MGM-EMI Distributors Ltd. | UPA Productions of America |
| Buccaneer Magoo | F 37141 | 6 | November 21 | MGM-EMI Distributors Ltd. | UPA Productions of America |
| Misguided Missile | F 37142 | 6 | November 21 | MGM-EMI Distributors Ltd. | UPA Productions of America |

Correction to the Register:
The registration number of the film 'Hitler: the Last Ten Days' registered on May 22, 1973 has been corrected to BR/E 36829/27/5/78.

# Index to statistics and organisational information published regularly in TRADE and INDUSTRY

A = annually M = monthly Q = quarterly 6M = every six months.
Dates before October 21, 1970, refer to articles in the *Board of Trade Journal*.

| Title | Last published |
|---|---|
| Air transport: | |
| aircraft noise at Heathrow and Gatwick airports (Q) | May 25 1972 |
| civil aviation balance of payments (A) | Mar. 16 1972 |
| trade by air (6M) | Oct. 18 1973 |
| Balance of payments: | |
| current account (M) | Nov. 22 1973 |
| quarterly figures (Q) | Mar. 22 1973 |
| trends in invisible transactions (Q) | Oct. 11 1973 |
| (*see also* Overseas trade of the UK) | |
| Bankruptcy orders (Q) | This week |
| Business names and limited partnerships (A) | Mar. 1 1973 |
| Capital expenditure: | |
| distributive and service trades (A) | Apr. 28 1971 |
| manufacturing, distributive and service industries (Q) | Oct. 4 1973 |
| Catering trades turnover (M) | Nov. 15 1973 |
| Chemicals industry activity (Q) | Aug. 2 1973 |
| Companies: | |
| acquisitions and mergers (Q) | Nov. 22 1973 |
| new registrations: | |
| Gt. Britain (M) | This week |
| N. Ireland (M) | Nov. 15 1973 |
| Computers: UK market (Q) | May 24 1973 |
| Construction work overseas (A) | Oct. 11 1973 |
| ECGD business (Q) | June 21 1973 |
| Electronic capital equipment (Q) | June 21 1973 |
| Energy trends (M) | Nov. 22 1973 |
| Engineering industries: sales and orders (M) | Nov. 15 1973 |
| Film industry: | |
| British Film Fund Agency returns (M) | Nov. 15 1973 |
| cinema admissions and takings (M) | Nov. 15 1973 |
| overseas payments and earnings (A) | Aug. 9 1973 |
| registration of films (A) | Jan. 25 1973 |
| trends in film going (A) | Aug. 19 1971 |
| Food: | |
| consumption levels (6M) | Aug. 30 1973 |
| household consumption (Q) | Oct. 11 1973 |
| Footwear industry: | |
| production, orders and deliveries (M) | Nov. 15 1973 |
| Foreign exchange: official reserves (M) | Nov. 15 1973 |
| Foreign trade: | |
| EFTA (Q) | Mar. 23 1972 |
| industrial countries' production and trade (Q) | Aug. 16 1973 |
| world exports of manufactures (A) | Sept. 30 1970 |
| (*see also* Overseas trade of the UK) | |
| Furniture orders and deliveries (M) | Nov. 15 1973 |
| Hire-purchase business (M) | Nov. 8 1973 |
| Industrial production: | |
| index numbers (M) | Nov. 22 1973 |
| N. Ireland index (M) | This week |
| Wales index (Q) | Oct. 18 1973 |
| Insurance companies: investments and assets (A) | Aug. 30 1973 |
| Investment: | |
| book values of overseas direct investments (every 3 years) | Nov. 15 1973 |
| industry's investment intentions (3 times a year) | Oct. 11 1973 |
| investment and earnings overseas (A) | Mar. 29 1973 |
| Machine tools: deliveries and orders (M) | Nov. 22 1973 |
| Man-made fibres: | |
| deliveries (Q) | This week |
| production (M) | This week |
| production: quarterly analysis (Q) | This week |
| Motor industry: | |
| car and commercial vehicle production (M) | This week |
| estimated figures (M) | Nov. 15 1973 |
| motor trade turnover (M) | Aug. 16 1973 |
| Office development permits (Q) | Oct. 4 1973 |
| Overseas trade of the UK: | |
| direct exporters and credit terms (A) | May 10 1973 |
| ECGD business (Q) | June 21 1973 |
| unit value and volume index numbers (M) | Nov. 15 1973 |
| value: analysis of trends (Q) | Sept. 6 1973 |
| (*see also* Balance of payments) | |
| Pension funds: investments and assets (A) | Aug. 30 1973 |
| Retail prices index (M) | This week |
| Retail trades: | |
| sales (M) | Nov. 8 1973 |
| sales, N. Ireland (M) | This week |
| stocks (M) | Nov. 15 1973 |
| Royalties: overseas transactions (A) | Apr. 12 1973 |
| Shipping: nationality of vessels in UK sea-borne trade (A) | Nov. 2 1972 |
| Steel consumption and stocks (Q) | Aug. 16 1973 |
| Stocks: | |
| distributive and service trades (A) | Apr. 28 1971 |
| manufacturers' and distributors' (Q) | Oct. 4 1973 |
| retail (M) | Oct. 11 1973 |
| Television: overseas payments and earnings (A) | Aug. 9 1973 |
| Textiles: | |
| activity in the industry (Q) | Aug. 2 1973 |
| carpet sales (M) | Oct. 25 1973 |
| cotton industry production (M) | Oct. 25 1973 |
| hosiery production (M) | Nov. 22 1973 |
| made-up clothing: orders and deliveries (M) | Nov. 15 1973 |
| orders and deliveries (M) | Nov. 8 1973 |
| wholesale houses' sales (M) | Nov. 15 1973 |
| wool exports (Q) | June 14 1973 |
| wool output (M) | Nov. 15 1973 |
| Tourism: | |
| foreign visitor arrivals (M) | This week |
| overseas travel and tourism (A) | Dec. 21 1972 |
| Wholesale prices: | |
| average prices of selected commodities (A) | Mar. 29 1973 |
| index numbers (M) | Nov. 22 1973 |

## Dept. of Trade and Industry organisation etc.

| Subjects | Last published |
|---|---|
| British commercial representation overseas | Oct. 4 1973 |
| Business Monitor titles | Sept. 6 1973 |
| Customs notices of interest to exporters | Oct. 25 1973 |
| ECGD local offices | Nov. 22 1973 |
| Guide to DTI | Aug. 30 1973 |
| Official Receivers' offices | Nov. 15 1973 |
| Programme of trade promotions | Oct. 18 1973 |
| Release dates of economic statistics | This week |

## MISCELLANEOUS ADVERTISEMENTS

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### ECGD addresses

The Export Credits Guarantee Department's head office is at Aldermanbury House, Aldermanbury, London EC2P 2EL (Tel. 01-606 6699). ECGD has 20 local offices in various parts of the United Kingdom, and these are listed from time to time in *Trade and Industry*.

# GOVERNMENT SALES

## MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

**December 6, 1973 Miscellaneous Stores**

**Location: Golden Lion Hotel, King Street, Stirling**

**Auctioneers: Dixon & Wallace Ltd. (Dept. L), Bank Buildings, Graham Square, Glasgow G31 1AW (Tel: 041-554-2447/8/9)**

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**December 12, 1973 Miscellaneous Stores**

**Location: The Hilltop Motor Hotel, London Road, Carlisle**

**Auctioneers: Harrison & Hetherington Ltd. (Dept. L), Botchergate, Carlisle CA1 1SE (Tel: 0228-26292)**

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**Catalogues of the above sales, which give details of the lots, conditions of sale, viewing times etc. are available from the relevant auctioneers from two weeks prior to and up to the date of the sale, Price 10p (postal order only).**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

**December 4, 1973**

**Location: Department of the Environment, Supplies Division Stores, India Pavilion, Exhibition Grounds, Wembley, Middlesex (Tel: 01-903 2608)**

**Auctioneers: Messrs. Fuller, Horsey, Sons and Cassell, 52 Bow Lane, London EC4M 9ET (Tel: 01-248 7954)**

Office and miscellaneous furniture, engineering, electrical, canteen, domestic and other equipment, etc.

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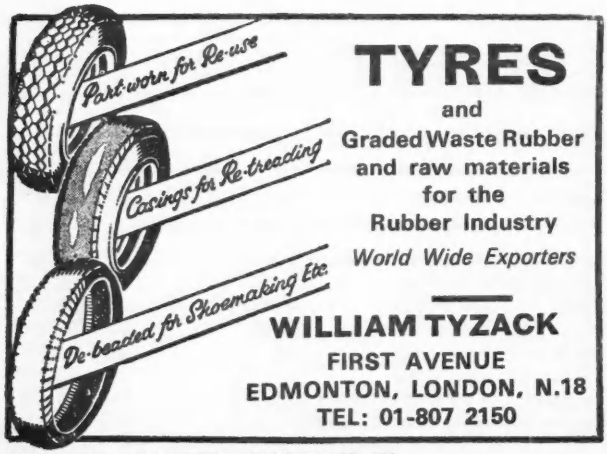


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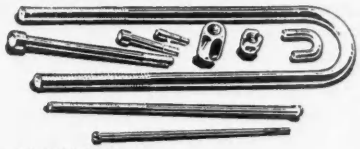

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*Registered as a Newspaper.* Published by Her Majesty's Stationery Office, Atlantic House, Holborn Viaduct, London, EC1P 1BN, for the Department of Trade and Industry, 1 Victoria Street, London, SW1H 0ET. Printed by The Garden City Press Limited, Pixmore Avenue, Letchworth, Herts, SG6 1JS.
ISBN 0 11 723188 6